

# ARMY



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SPECIAL ORDER NO. 429.

ONE more move, and a decisive one, has been made by the General-in-Chief in the match-game, so to call it, now going on between that officer and the President, regarding the exercise of original and ultimate authority in certain details of the military governance of the Districts. This significant move is the Special Order No. 429, which has just come from the Headquarters of the Army, and which, with characteristic terseness, directs commanders of the Military Districts to "make no appointments to civil office of persons "who have been removed by themselves or by their predecessors in command."

This language merits careful study. The order is a piece (to continue the figure) so moved up on the board as to guard two threatened positions, while being itself a menace. First, the President had it in mind, if his friends tell us aright, to reinstate one or more of the obnoxious "impediments" whom SHERIDAN and SICKLES have so cavalierly removed from office, because of their incompetency or disloyalty. General GRANT "flanks" this intent by a positive order prohibiting such restorations.

The second point guarded is practically less obvious and important, but politically much more so. We interpret this Special Order No. 429 as a direct response to the gratuitous and complicating instructions which the President went out of his way to incorporate into the orders assigning Generals HANCOCK and CANBY to command, in the stead of Generals SHERIDAN and SICKLES. General GRANT, for the purpose of exercising the authority conferred upon him by Congress, commanded General THOMAS, in assuming General SHERIDAN's vacated position, to carry out and execute all the latter's orders; and not to modify or neglect any one of them, unless previously instructed to do so from the Headquarters of the Army. Piqued by this display of a legitimate authority, the President retorts by unnecessarily introducing into a simple order of appointment—both in the case of CANBY and of HANCOCK—a direction to exercise freely "any and all" "powers conferred by acts of Congress upon District "Commanders," and "any and all authority pertaining to officers in command of military departments." As this direction, however wise and proper at ordinary times, contrasted, both in language and spirit, with the order just issued by General GRANT to the Commander of the Fifth District, it became necessary for General GRANT to reassert his authority in unmistakable terms. He was compelled to force a direct issue, not by the use of general and deceptive language, but by some specific permission or prohibition, which should command Military Commanders *not* to exercise "any and all authority" on some definite subject, for the simple reason that the General-in-Chief had specially curtailed that authority.

This, as we understand the matter, General GRANT accomplished by his Special Order. What has been the consequence? The President has very wisely declined to accept the gage of battle thus thrown down.

Heretofore, the President has had legal right and the authority of position on his side. As a soldier would say, he "ranked" General GRANT, and the latter, even on a matter which touched him personally and sorely—the removal of SHERIDAN—was forced to succumb. Elated by his success, the President rather unwisely gave the specific instructions just alluded to. General GRANT at once took advantage of the opening, and seems to have shifted the issue to his own strong ground. For it must be remembered that the same source of power, namely, the Acts of Congress, which gave to the President the liberty to appoint District Commanders, imposed upon the General of the Army the duty of giving them their instructions. The President, on reflection, has seen, we hope, that this is a case in which he should not interfere; and, knowing that General GRANT is strong just here, he will do well to abandon the contest. Hence, the upshot of the last development is that General GRANT's authority for the governance of the Districts remains undisputed.

It is right to add a word upon the timeliness of the issue of this order. It is dated August 29th. It came at a moment when the President was on the point of seeking to push his control over the Districts still further. On that same day, the Boston *Post*, whose correspondent is one of those whom the President takes into his confidence, published in its Washington letter a statement that "the impression in high official circles here is that General HANCOCK will restore "all the State officials in Texas." General GRANT's Special Order prevents, we trust, this high official impression from becoming realized.

THE new proclamation of the President has thus far fallen dead, nobody paying much attention to it. We are inclined to think that the President, to quote Mr. WELLER, has "done it vunce too often." Proclamations, to be effective, must not only be rare, but should be based upon facts which cannot properly be made public except through this form. Now, the President's document is only an announcement to the officers of our Army, serving in the South, that they must not obstruct the laws, nor violate the Constitution. Such instructions would more fittingly, if necessary, come from the War Office, in the usual form of a General Order. There was no need of any flourish of trumpets, in the shape of a Presidential proclamation, to secure this end. Orders of this kind, we repeat, should pass through the military channels—if the President will leave us yet any official method for our service—and not be flaunted out to furnish political capital, and meet partisan comment.

But this is not all. Were there justice in the implied censures on that official conduct of all our officers, which makes it necessary to blazon out a sort of general warning to do better in the future, we should indignantly protest against this method of administering the rebuke, the warning, and the threat for the future. When, however, it is known that our officers have not only tried their best, but have secured the merited "Well done, good and faithful servants!" from the loyal States, we shall not fail to make known our discontent at the President's language. It is much more likely to be he than they that will "obstruct" the execution of the laws—all of which are made by Congress, which is the enthusiastic champion of our District Commanders. Our officers hardly need this gratuitous reminder from one whose own course has failed to secure the approbation either of the law-making power or of the people of the loyal States. In impliedly warning our officers henceforth

to follow out his peculiar notions as to how the South should be governed, he not only encroaches upon their professional sphere, but invites them to do what will bring them into contempt with the body which alone placed them there, and which gave them the orders they must carry out.

We need hardly say, therefore, that this proclamation will fall fruitless to the ground. It will not, happily, be the cause of any trouble or clashing, because it is so loose and maundering in style as to be easily obeyed to the very letter. The *New York Times* rather shrewdly says:

For the edification and amusement offered by the proclamation from the President, which sees the light this morning, we presume the country should thank the wisdom and ingenuity of the illustrious BICKLEY. It bears the marks of his handiwork. The irreverent multitude will be more disposed to mock than praise.

We are sincerely sorry to be obliged to comment in this way upon an official utterance from so high a source, but it is really the only comment fit to be made. We can discover nothing which made its issue necessary, nor any good which it is likely to accomplish.

Two dispatches have lately come through the Atlantic cable on the subject of the alleged American negotiations regarding the purchase from Denmark of her West India colonies. In the first place, a Copenhagen telegram tells us that the journals of Denmark are discussing the reported proposition of the United States for the purchase of the island of St. Thomas. They generally favor the project, and urge the Danish Government to enter into negotiations with the American Government for the sale of the island. Still later, the Vienna *Presse*, which is a journal of a semi-official character, says it has received intelligence that the United States is on the point of concluding a negotiation with the Cabinet of Copenhagen for the acquisition by purchase of all the Danish possessions in the West Indies, consisting of the islands of St. Thomas, St. Croix, and St. John, and that the price is \$8,000,000 in gold.

Should this prove true, the negotiations which opened so inauspiciously in the visit of Mr. SEWARD, and the subsequent visit of Mr. SEWARD's son to the island of St. Thomas will have produced some fruit. There was something almost ludicrous in the diplomatic mystery with which these SEWARD-like preliminaries were conducted. First, it was announced that Mr. Secretary SEWARD's health was failing from the severe strain of his duties, and that he would make a little southerly trip. Pretty nearly every morning we had official assurances from the Washington telegrams that the voyage of the Secretary was solely in reference to the "recuperation of his health," and had "no diplomatic significance." The telegraphic anxiety respecting the Secretary's health was really almost painful in its intensity. But, in fine, the vessel got away "for a southerly voyage" and, in the most natural way, went to St. Thomas. The Secretary's health became entirely restored in a few days, and he returned "much benefitted" by the voyage. Such we now presume to be the origin of the negotiation which the Vienna paper speaks of as nearly concluded. It is pleasant to learn, at last, of these little affairs, even if we have to do so through an Austrian newspaper.

The Sublime Porte has issued a circular note announcing to its ministers at foreign courts that the war in the Island of Candia has been brought to a close and that a general amnesty has been granted to the insurgents. The same note promises that many reforms will be forthwith introduced in the laws and administration of the island.

## THE ARMY.

SECOND Lieutenant JAMES C. KROSEN, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth U. S. Colored Infantry, was recently tried before a General Court-martial which convened at Albuquerque, N. M. The charges against him were: first, "defrauding the U. S. Government;" second, "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline;" third, "breach of arrest;" and the following additional charges: first, "conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline;" second, "wrongfully disposing of the property of the United States;" third, "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." Although the court found the accused guilty of several of the specifications under these charges, they found him not guilty of all but one of the charges, and sentenced him to be reprimanded by the department commander. Major-General HANCOCK makes the following remarks upon the case:

The findings on the first, fifth, and sixth specifications to the first charge cannot express the meaning of the Court; for certainly a court sworn to "truly try and determine according to evidence," and "duly administer justice," could not mean to contradict the law and evidence by such a verdict. The accused is found guilty of defrauding the Government, while Acting Commissary of Subsistence, by the issue of false vouchers for the payment of money; of selling commissary whiskey to the enlisted men of his company and receiving pay therefor; and of taking a large amount of subsistence stores from the Government warehouse without paying or accounting for the same; and the court decides there is "no criminality" attached to offences of this nature, but concludes it is "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline."

Under the charge of "defrauding the Government," to find the accused not guilty of the charge as laid, but guilty of "conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline," is irregular and invalid, the latter offence not being a lesser kindred offence, but quite another and different one from that set forth in the charge. Fraud is not an offence comprehended in the provisions of the 99th Article of War.

The accused is found guilty of the specification to the third charge, but *not guilty* of the charge. The evidence shows, conclusively, a violation of the 77th Article of War, (breach of arrest) under which the charge is laid, and it is not understood how the court could find the accused guilty of all that goes to constitute the offence described in the charge, and arrive at the absurd conclusion that he is *not guilty* of the charge.

Upon the second additional charge, the accused is found not guilty of wrongfully disposing of property of the United States (with which he is charged), but guilty of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." This finding is also irregular and invalid, and the same remarks apply as to the findings upon the first charge.

The sentence of the court is entirely inconsistent with the findings. The accused is repeatedly found guilty of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," and sentenced "to be reprimanded by the Department Commander."

The punishment awarded by the court being so disproportionate to the offence, the Major-General Commanding declines to administer the reprimand imposed by the sentence, not desiring to establish a precedent that such a sentence is a proper punishment for offences of this nature. It being impracticable to reconvene the court, Lieutenant KROSEN will be released from arrest and returned to duty.

BREVET Major-General POPE, commanding the Third Military District, has issued the following order:

Grand and petit jurors and all other jurors for the trial of cases civil or criminal, or for the administration of law in the States of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, will hereafter be taken exclusively from the lists of voters without discrimination registered by boards of registration under the acts of Congress of the United States known as the Reconstruction Acts.

Sheriffs and all other officers whose duty it is to summon and empanel jurors, will require each juror to make oath that he is duly registered as above indicated, specifying precinct and county in which he was registered, which affidavit will be placed on the official files of the court.

The following order has also been issued explanatory of the above:

General Orders No. 53 is not designed to require that the present juries already drawn in this District shall be set aside and new juries drawn and summoned, but only in the case of juries already drawn and summoned that the jurors shall be required to take the oath specified in General Orders No. 53, and that jurors who cannot take that oath shall be replaced by such as can. Juries shall be hereafter listed, drawn and summoned as required in that order.

In a recent General Order promulgating the proceedings of a General Court-martial, Major-General HANCOCK makes the following remarks:

The record shows that there were *five members* of the court present on the trial of these cases, and that *one of these members* was permitted to act, and did act, as *the counsel for these prisoners*, at their request. It is conceded that the accused is entitled to counsel upon his trial, as a *positive right*, but it is not believed that this right extends to a selection of his counsel from the court, which is composed of *five members only*. The exercise of such a privilege would virtually reduce the court below the legal number necessary for the trial of the case, as it is hardly conceivable that an officer acting in the double capacity of counsel for the prisoner and member of the court could "duly administer justice, without *partiality, favor, or affection*," as required by his oath. The prisoners will be released from confinement and returned to duty.

SOLDIERS throughout the country are cautioned against parties representing themselves to be sent from Wash-

ton with instructions to soldiers and claim agents for the collection of additional bounties, and also stating that the soldiers of 1861 are entitled to one hundred and sixty acres of land. The object of these parties appears to be to obtain the dates, numbers of regiments, and officers' signatures as they appear upon discharge papers. With these dates forged applications for pay would probably be made out. Several of these parties have been discovered in Ohio and Indiana.

MAJOR-GENERAL HANCOCK, commanding Department of the Missouri, has issued the following order:

1. Subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, the military reservation of Fort Wallace is designated as follows:

The initial point is one mile north of the south end of the Quartermaster's store-house, thence the boundary of the reservation runs five miles east, thence two miles south, thence seven miles west, and from this point two miles north to meet the northern boundary point two miles west of the initial point, then two miles east of the initial point. The points of the compass mentioned are true points, not magnetic. The variation of the compass in June, 1867, when the survey was made was 13 deg. 52 sec. east.

The reservation contains fourteen square miles.

2. Subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, the military reservation of Fort Hays is designated as follows:

The initial point is 33 chains or 1,650 feet east of the south-east corner of the south-west quarter of section 32 township 13, south of base line range 18, west of 6th principal meridian. Thence the limiting line runs due north until it strikes the crest of the banks of the railroad ditch, at which point a stone is sunk. The line runs along said crest until it meets the northern boundary line of the southern sections of townships 13, south of base line, which occurs in section 31, of range 18, township 13; here a stone is sunk; from this point the boundary runs due west more than a mile and a half to a stone near the north-west corner of section 36, township 13, range 18 as above; here the line takes a direction due south, and maintains this course for two miles; it then turns east, and after running east for one and one-half miles, it runs south for a mile and a half; then east four miles and a half, then north two miles and a half; the west for three miles, nineteen chains and forty feet, or three miles nine hundred and ninety feet to the initial point. At the point where the section and quarter section lines will cut the bounding lines of the reservation, also where said bounding lines change direction, a bench mark is left once in each mile; this mark is a dressed stone imbedded firmly in the ground, and standing eighteen inches above the ground, with "U. S." chiselled on one side, and "U. S. Mil. Res." painted on another. Indications pointing in the direction of the lines indicate corners. Where the lines cross Big Creek, a bench mark is sunk on each bank, lettered as above, and the trees are blazed and lettered in one place (at the railway crossing), and a sign is nailed to a small tree on each side and lettered as above, at the other intersection of the boundary line with the creek, no large trees being near.

The reservation contains 15 square miles and 130 acres.

Fort Bliss, Texas, ceased to be within the limits of the District of New Mexico, Brevet Major-General George W. GETTY, commanding, on the 31st of July, 1867, on the day on which its garrison, composed of troops belonging to that command, was relieved by troops from the Fifth Military District.

A GENERAL Court-martial has been ordered to assemble at Fort Leavenworth, on the 15th of September, for the trial of Brevet Major-General G. A. Custer and others. Detail for the Court: Brevet Major-General W. Hoffman, Colonel Third Infantry; Brevet Major-General I. W. Davidson, Lieutenant-Colonel Tenth Infantry; Brevet Major-

General B. W. Grierson, Colonel Tenth Cavalry; Brevet Brigadier-General S. Morrison, retired list; Brevet Brigadier-General M. R. Morgan, Commissary of Subsistence; Brevet Brigadier-General F. D. Calendar, Ordnance Department; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. English, Fifth Infantry; Brevet Major Henry Asbury, Third Infantry; Brevet Major L. C. Lyford, Ordnance Department; Captain Robert Chandler, Thirteenth Infantry, Judge Advocate. The charge upon which General Custer is to be tried is said to be leaving his post without permission.

MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE, Commanding Department of the East, makes the following remarks upon the case of two privates, who were recently tried before a General Court-martial which convened at Fort Porter, New York:

In the case of Privates ASHTON and MORON, First Artillery, the proceedings and finding are disapproved. The prisoners were tried on the joint charge of desertion. Had it been alleged that the prisoners combined and agreed together to commit this offence, for which they were tried, their conviction would have been strictly formal; but under the specification, in its present form, no inference can be drawn from the evidence taken to show that there was any concerted action between them, or that either was even cognizant at the time of the absence of the other, and therefore, under the decision of the Judge-Advocate-General, these proceedings are invalid. Privates ASHTON and MORON will be released from confinement and restored to duty.

THERE appears to be considerable ignorance on the subject of courts-martial among some of the officers stationed in the Department of the Missouri, for in General Orders No. 120, from Department Headquarters, which refers to the proceedings of a General Court-martial in the case of fourteen privates, General HANCOCK, the Department Commander, says:

The record in the foregoing cases does not show that the Court convened pursuant to the order constituting it, nor that it was organized as the law requires, which defects are held to be fatal to the validity of the sentences. The record in each case must be complete in itself, and the fact that the Court was duly organized cannot be made out by

reference to a previous record in the same series. When the record merely states "the Court being in session proceeded, etc.," it does not sufficiently set forth the organization of the Court.

The Court and Judge Advocate are chargeable with great carelessness and negligence in allowing these prisoners to escape a most merited punishment on account of such a defect in the record. Errors of this kind are inexcusable. It being impracticable to re-assemble the Court without interfering with the operations of troops, the prisoners will be released from confinement and returned to duty.

MAJOR-GENERAL HANCOCK on the 23d ult., issued the following order:

By direction of the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Military Division of the Missouri, Albuquerque and Fort Marcy, will be abandoned and discontinued as military posts.

The public property at Albuquerque will be disposed of or removed to some other post, under the direction of the commanding officer District of New Mexico.

The Headquarters of the District of New Mexico, will be retained in Santa Fe, with only sufficient enlisted men of the Infantry, for guards and orderlies, to be quartered in the barracks of Fort Marcy.

MAJOR-GENERAL SICKLES commanding Second Military District, has issued an order directing that, until the 1st of October next, post commanders are not permitted to avail themselves of the privilege granted in paragraph 180, Revised Regulations for the Army of 1863.

The paragraph referred to gives a commander of a post permission to take leave of absence not exceeding seven days at one time or in the same month reporting the fact to his next superior.

GENERAL GRANT has issued the following order:

Commanders of the military Districts created under the act of March 2, 1867, will make no appointments to civil office of persons who have been removed by themselves or their predecessors in command.

## THE LESSONS OF THE PRUSSIAN WAR.

We have a valuable addition to the library of military experience in the history of the antecedents and incidents of the seven weeks' war of Prussia and Italy against Austria and her allies, which has just been given us by H. M. HOZIER, F. C. S., F. G. S.\* Mr. HOZIER was the correspondent of the London *Times* with the Prussian army during its brilliant campaign, and his narrative is based upon letters reprinted, by permission, from the *Times*. It has a value to the military student, however, much beyond that of the ordinary newspaper correspondence "from the seat of war." Its author is a graduate of the English Staff College, and his work throughout bears evidence that he is an intelligent observer of military movements. His observations are very naturally directed from the point of view of the Prussians, with whom he was associated, though, indeed, the incidents of a war which, "for rapidity and decisive results, may claim an almost unrivalled position in history," were so uniformly and astonishingly favorable to Prussia that it would seem impossible for the most prejudiced of Austria to dissent from his conclusions.

Mr. HOZIER attempts no elaborate analysis of the causes which secured the triumph of Prussia, but incidentally his narrative establishes the conclusion—to which attentive observers have already come—that this triumph was due only in part to the needle-gun, to which, in popular estimation, the overthrow of Austria is ascribed. The superiority of the Prussian system of military organization, the admirable administrative ability of the Prussian War Office, the strategic skill of the Chief of Staff, General VON MOLTKE, and, finally, the unexpected military ability displayed by the Prince of the royal house of Prussia—to whom was committed the chief conduct of operations on the field—all these had their share in securing to Prussia the advantage over its too confident and less alert antagonist.

In the beginning the Austrians made the mistake of despising their enemy, and placed undue confidence in their more recent experience of actual war. In the end they were forced to acknowledge that though they had found themselves at a disadvantage against the Prussian needle gun, it had not proved so bad for them as the Prussian generals, "who have a most diabolical power of manoeuvring." It was this which enabled them to obtain such extraordinary successes, with little fighting and scarcely any loss—as they did at Munchengrätz, where they secured the line of the Iser, and on to the final combat at Koniggrätz, which opened the way to the Austrian capital, forced from the control of the Kaiser his fair Italian province of Venetia, and secured to Prussia the much-coveted prize of German empire. Inferior forces of Austrians were exposed at almost all points to superior forces of the Prussians, while the masses—which, cast at

\* The Seven Weeks' War—Its Antecedents and Incidents. By H. M. HOZIER, F. C. S., F. G. S. In two volumes, 8vo. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. London: Macmillan & Co., 1867.

he proper moments to either side would have turned the scale—oscillated vaguely backward and forward, under vacillating or contradictory orders. “The eyes of the Austrian army,” Mr. HOZIER tells us, “on more than one occasion during the campaign failed. Their patrol system was very much inferior to that of the Prussians.” This inferiority he ascribes to the want of military education among the officers to whom patrols were entrusted. “The Prussian system, on the contrary, never failed—never allowed a surprise. The Austrians were repeatedly surprised and taken unprepared. Yet the outpost system of the latter during the Italian war of 1859 merited the praise of the Emperor of the French, and was by him pointed out to his own army as a model of superiority.” The Prussians have proved themselves apt students of their great FREDERICK’s “secret instructions to staff officers,” and have applied with rare skill, to the exigencies of modern warfare, those admirable directions for patrol duty which, in their general application, can never become antiquated.

Mr. HOZIER bears uniform testimony, also, to the excellent discipline displayed by the Prussian soldiers upon the march, as well as in the field. Few stragglers were ever seen, except those who had fallen fainting out of the ranks, and were lying half stupefied by the roadside. The standing crops which fringed the roadside were not trampled down or passed through. The men never left the road, however dusty or muddy, and if there was a halt where corn grew by the wayside, no soldier went further from the line of march than to sit on the narrow fringe of ground which separates the *chausses* from the cultivated ground, and in no case were the fields intruded upon. After a day’s tramp through the dust or mud and rain, the troops would come in with ranks closed up, with as perfect a step as on holiday parade, and go swinging along as though they could not know fatigue. Yet they were heavily laden, inconveniently clad, and marched, not in small detachments or over open roads, but in large masses, along deep and heavy roads, encumbered with artillery and covered with carriages.

To the *zundnadel-gewehr* Mr. HOZIER concedes but a secondary influence upon the issue of the campaign. Its success is due, in a measure, to the fact that it came into action under most favorable circumstances. At Podoll the Prussians, armed with breech-loaders, fired upon the troops of CLAM-GALLAS while the latter were crowded together in the narrow street of a village, and could not readily handle their clumsy muzzle-loaders. At Nachod the soldiers of Steinmetz fired from the cover of a wood upon their Austrian assailants in the open. In both cases the rapid discharges told fearfully upon the men who were armed with the more slowly loading weapons. “The consequence was,” says Mr. HOZIER, “that the Prussians gained a great moral victory at the very beginning. They found confidence—their opponents lost heart. Yet in the subsequent operations the difference of armament had little physical effect. Superior strategical capabilities, superior organization and greater activity seemed to have been more powerful in gaining the junction of the Prussian armies than superior armament. Yet the Prussian leaders hazarded much by their two convergent lines of operation. The result is but another proof of the old maxim that ‘in war he is the victor who makes the fewest errors.’”

It is not to be forgotten, however, that the needle-gun did most effective service at Gitschin, at Soor and at Trautenau, as well as at Podoll and Nachod. In these actions the casualties in the Austrian army were nearly as five to one, numbering in the fight at Trautenau 5,732, to the Prussians 1,277; and at the decisive battle of Koniggratz, or Sadowa, the key position of Chlum was taken and held by the needle-guns, which discharged such a volley against the Austrians seeking to recover the position that nearly the whole of the attacking force were either killed or wounded. Here the Austrians incurred their greatest loss, their dead lying terribly thick in the open ground and down the reverse side of Chlum hill, where hardly a Prussian uniform was to be seen. Wherever the Austrians fought unprotected by cover, and wherever the Prussian riflemen, armed with needle-guns, could see their enemy, the disproportion of the dead became immediately apparent. In wooded ground the breech-loader had no fair field, and the infantry fight was nearly equal. In open ground it was found that the needle-gun had the advantage, not only from the rapidity of its fire, but from the fact that it was more sure of its aim, as the muzzle was depressed in loading, so that the men, even in the heat of action, could scarcely fail to fire low.

The prophecy of extraordinary expenditure of ammunition from the use of breech-loaders is not borne out by the Prussian experience. The number of cartridges fired by them at the battle of Koniggratz barely exceeded one per man on the ground. Hardly any soldier fired so many as ninety, and few more than sixty. At the battle of Borodino, one of the most sanguinary contests on record, the French are said to have fired at the rate of about eleven per man, or 1,400,000 in all. “Nothing has been elicited

in the late war,” as Mr. HOZIER justly says, “to prove that the needle-gun is better, or even equal to many breech-loading rifles that have been invented more lately. The success of the needle-gun has established the superiority of the breech-loading over the muzzle-loading principle; but there are many breech-loaders better adapted for all the purposes of warfare than the needle-gun, and any nation which may arm its troops with a servile imitation of the Prussian arm may probably find that the next European war will show the trouble to have been in vain, and the expenses of the armament thrown away.”

Finding that they could not in open column stand against the better-armed Prussians, the Austrians sought to close with the bayonet; but the conceit of superiority in the use of this weapon, which they had in common with so many military nations, was soon disturbed when they found their lighter-built men almost invariably going down before the stalwart sons of Prussia. The Austrians were subject to similar humiliation in their pride of superiority in cavalry, though the contest here was more evenly waged. Yet were the Prussians victors in nearly every cavalry encounter, according to Mr. HOZIER. In the very first charge of their squadrons, at Trautenau, the First Prussian Dragoons drove from the field Austria’s celebrated Windischgratz Dragoons, whose record of brave deeds entitles them to wear the distinguishing mark of a shaven upper lip. Even the much-criticized lance, in the hands of the Prussian Uhlans, becomes a weapon of power. It retrieved the day at Sadowa, where the sabre-armed dragoons had been nearly destroyed in the charge of an Austrian cuirass brigade, led by an Englishman of the name of BRALES, in the Austrian service. Something of this result is credited to the fact that the Uhlans had retained the epaulette, which has of late been discarded in most armies as a useless encumbrance. The sabre strokes aimed at their heads nearly always missed the smaller object, and the sharp edge “descended only to be dinted or broken upon the protected shoulder, while the Uhlans, with their lances held short in hand, searched out with their spear-heads unguarded portions of their antagonists’ bodies, or, dealing heavy blows with the butt end of their staves, pressed through the thick ranks of the heavy horsemen, marking their track with great heaps of dead, dying or wounded.”

The experience of this campaign has taught, Mr. HOZIER concludes, “that needle-guns and rifled artillery have no more driven cavalry—and even very heavy cavalry—from the field of battle than they have from the theatre of war: but it has been found that, in the shock of closing squadrons, small men and light horses must go down before the powerful onset of stouter assailants. The Prussians found that in future cavalry must be formed and equipped so as to allow strong troopers to be brought into the field. But stout troopers ride heavily, and heavy loads tell fearfully on horses on the line of march; so, to secure power in the charge with rapidity of movement, the dead weight which cavalry horses now carry must be reduced to almost nothing, and the horse must be required to bear little more than the rider, his arms, his cloak and light saddle.”

In regard to the artillery, Mr. HOZIER tells us that on both sides it failed to cause such numerous casualties as might have been anticipated from so large a number of rifled guns—an experience which is fully borne out by our own in our late war. The Prussians entered upon the campaign with their horse artillery armed with smooth-bore twelve-pounder guns. This they found to be an error, and the whole of their field artillery is to be armed with steel breech-loading rifled guns, constructed on KRUPP’s system. The Prussians are to take some hints, too, from our American experience, and will supplement their admirable field telegraph with a system of corps signals, similar to that for which we are indebted to Colonel MYERS. They are also, we are told, about to establish a regular system of reconnoitring balloons, with which, we trust, they will have better success than we did in the woods of Virginia.

As the result of his observations in this war, Mr. HOZIER records his conclusions: First that an offensive campaign is better than a defensive one, and much more likely to achieve success; next that small fortresses do not delay the progress in the field of a large invading army, which can afford to spare detachments to prevent sallies; and that fortifications which enclose a town of any size are useless, unless the defensive works are so far in front of the houses as to preclude the bombardment of the city; and, finally, that with plenty of bridges, a river in the rear of a position becomes an advantage, as, in case of defeat, the bridges can be broken and the river become an obstacle to the pursuit. Such generalizations as these are unfortunately of little value, as circumstances must so constantly modify the application of the principles they seem to establish that we are thrown back upon that military insight—the result of natural capacity, assisted and developed by study and experience—which is, after all, the only foundation for confidence in the conduct of war. The events of this seven weeks war, as recorded by Mr. HO-

ZIER, are but additional proof of how little success in war is due to perfunctory study, or even to superiority in mechanical appliances, and how much still depends upon thorough and conscientious training and preparation, and zeal and professional ability on the part of those having the direction of the different departments of the military administration, which need to be so nicely adjusted to one another that they may, as in the case of Prussia, move without friction or jar to the accomplishment of their common purpose. His work is full of instruction for us, and we wish that we might hope to see its lessons of thoroughness and system applied to the conduct of our own military administration.

#### AMERICAN ORDNANCE VS. ENGLISH ARMOR.

DESPITE the blustering of the *London Times*, we find from an examination of our foreign files that many of the English papers are beginning to open their eyes to lesser to be learned from the recent experiments with our 15-inch gun at Shoeburyness. The *London Herald* of August 20th publishes the following article:

It is a matter of congratulation that Sir John Pakington has paid such decided attention to the practical remarks of Lord Elcho and the honorable member for Cashel, and every credit is due to the War Minister for the pledge he has given of proving the real value of the much questioned Royal Engineers’ designs, by the construction of a target absolutely upon their model, and the testing of it at Shoeburyness with the 250 and 600-pounders, fired with battering charges. This is an important step in the right direction; but whatever the result of the experiment, be it failure or success, we still maintain our former assertion, that against forts only slightly beyond the power of existing guns *special artillery will, in case of war, be purposely made by the enemy*; and that, therefore, no modern iron fort will have the requisite reliable defensive character, unless its thickness and mechanical structure be very considerably greater than is merely sufficient to withstand existing armaments. The Rodman 450-pounder before the Ordnance Select Committee *has done more than most English artillerists thought it would*, and if such guns are capable of standing battering charges of 100 pounds of American powder, as it is now asserted at New York they are, we have not yet witnessed their full effects. Still less knowledge have we of the destruction the American 20 inch guns would produce with their 1,087-pound shot flying at a velocity of 1,370 feet per second. We are to have a trial of a 100-pound charge, and it is to be hoped that our Rodman will not be merely fired out to sea, but that another American iron and another English steel shot will be hurled by such terrific charges against the 8-inch target. It would also be well that the gun should be supplied with a veritable Palliser chilled shot, and that a metal mould should be properly made for casting it, as the sand-cast projectile used in the last experiments was very far inferior to the Major’s metal. It will also be most desirable that the new experimental section of the Spithead forts promised in the House of Commons on Thursday by the Secretary of State for War, should have a pounding from the Rodman. It ought also to be fired at with an American 1,087-pounder, as in the event of its being required to attack iron-shielded forts, our Transatlantic friends would very soon find out a way to work these heavy guns aboard ships. Lord Elcho was absolutely right in insisting on a perfect section of the new forts, and not a mere iron shield; for so unworkmanlike is the proposed stepping of the new shields upon their iron basements, that there is little doubt that such 20-inch projectiles would drive back the whole casemate like a box, if it had strength enough in its combination of parts to hold together, or otherwise, as is most likely, would knock the whole fabric down as a child’s ball would a card-house. We have no desire to overrate the power of the American artillery or that of any other country; indeed, the power of a weapon has, after the numerous scientific experiments which have been made, become a matter of arithmetical or algebraical calculation. Given the charge, the weight of shot, the velocity, it is easy enough to estimate the working power or destructive force for any distance of the flight, from 50 to 5,000 yards. And given the thickness of the defensive armor plate, and the tensile strength of its material, it is as easy to find out its resisting capacity. We can, therefore, predict what the shot is capable of doing and what is necessary to stop it out. We are not likely, therefore, to exaggerate in ignorance; we are not disposed to do so intentionally. *We had rather certainly over-estimate than under-estimate a possible enemy’s power, and every foreign country may be a possible enemy.* What we contend for is that it is of real importance that we should know the truth, and that we should prepare against any force that could possibly be brought to attack our ships or works; that the country ought to be satisfied that our millions are being spent in the erection of forts capable of withstanding the poundings they will be likely to receive in case of a war, and that incapacity or jobbery should not be permitted to put up shams instead of reliable realities. The present condition of fortification matters is one of cart before the horse.

GENERAL SHERIDAN has issued the following order: For admitting to bail in the sum of five hundred dollars, Thomas McNeely, who had deliberately murdered a colored man named Jefferson, and for refusing to admit as testimony on the part of the State witnesses of negro blood, on the recommendation of his Excellency Governor Flanders, James C. Morant, Justice of the Peace for Plaisance Ward, Parish of Rapides, is hereby removed from that office, and George Dorman appointed in his stead.

For allowing an alleged murderer, ordered to be confined in jail by Justice Osborn, and afterward making an effort to accomplish his arrest, on the recommendation of his Excellency Governor Flanders, James R. Anderson, Sheriff of the Parish of Rapides, is hereby removed from that office, and A. J. Sypher appointed in his stead.

## ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS SINCE SEPTEMBER 2, 1867.

**AUGUST 27.**—Permission to delay ten days in complying with so much of Special Orders No. 421, August 21, 1867, from this office, as directed him to report in person, without delay, to Brevet Major-General Butterfield, Superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York City, is hereby granted Brevet Captain Edward Field, Fourth U. S. Artillery.

Permission to delay joining his regiment until recruits will be going out in October to the plains, when he will go in charge of them, is hereby granted Brevet Brigadier-General Innis N. Palmer, Lieutenant-Colonel Second U. S. Cavalry.

A General Court-martial is hereby appointed to meet at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, at 11 o'clock A. M., on the 15th day of September, 1867, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Brevet Major-General G. A. Custer, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, and such other prisoners as may be brought before it. Detail for the Court: Brevet Major-General W. Hoffman, Colonel Third U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major-General J. W. Davidson, Lieutenant Colonel Tenth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Major-General B. H. Grierson, Colonel Tenth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Brigadier-General Pitcairn Morrison, Colonel U. S. Army, (retired); Brevet Brigadier General M. R. Morgan, Commissary of Subsistence; Brevet Brigadier-General F. D. Calender, Ordnance Department; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. English, Fifth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major Henry Asbury, Third U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major Stephen C. Lyford, Ordnance Department; Captain Robert Chandler, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, Judge-Advocate of the Court. No other officers than those named can be assembled without manifest injury to the service. The Court will sit without regard to hours.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Captain George R. Walbridge, Twelfth Regiment Veteran Reserve Corps, is hereby mustered out and honorably discharged the service of the United States, to date May 12, 1867, on account of his services being no longer required. This order will not carry travelling allowances.

First Lieutenant John D. McDonald, First U. S. Cavalry, will at once repair to San Francisco, California, and report for examination to Brevet Major-General McDowell, President of the Retiring Board convened by Special Orders No. 5, January 4, 1867, from this office.

Permission to delay reporting to his regiment until October 15, 1867, is hereby granted First Lieutenant C. N. Gray, Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry.

Permission to delay reporting for duty with his company until October 30, 1867, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant James Bassel, Second U. S. Artillery.

Permission to delay thirty days in joining his regiment is hereby granted Second Lieutenant William B. Clark, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days from September 1, 1867, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant J. Henry Shellabarger, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major Frank R. Chase, First Lieutenant Veteran Reserve Corps, in Special Orders No. 84, July 5, 1867, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, is hereby extended until October 16, 1867.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Brigadier-General Martin Flood, Lieutenant-Colonel Veteran Reserve Corps, in Special Orders No. 82, July 2, 1867, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, is hereby extended until October 15, 1867.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant William H. Miller, Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry.

Permission to delay joining his regiment until October 15, 1867, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant John Little, Fifty-fifth U. S. Infantry.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. S. Ten Broeck, Surgeon, will proceed to Fort Preble, Maine, and relieve Assistant Surgeon F. LeB. Monroe in his duties as post surgeon at that post. Assistant Surgeon Monroe, on being relieved, will report to the Commanding-General and to the Medical Director, Department of the Platte, for assignment to duty.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant James E. Morrow, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry.

Brevet Major-General W. H. Emory will forthwith relieve Brevet Major-General Canby, in command of the Department of Washington, and, by direction of the President, is assigned to duty according to his brevet of Major-General while exercising such command.

**AUGUST 28TH.**—Leave of absence for thirty days from September 1, 1867, is hereby granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel A. P. Shreve, Additional Paymaster of Volunteers.

Permission to delay thirty days in reporting to his regiment is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Charles M. Shepherd, Third U. S. Infantry.

The extension of leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Frantz, Assistant-Surgeon, in Special Orders No. 393, August 3, 1867, from this office, is hereby further extended twenty days on surgeon's certificate of disability.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas F. Barr, Judge-Advocate, in Special Orders No. 387, July 31, 1867, from this office, is hereby extended until September 25, 1867, on surgeon's certificate of disability.

By direction of the President, Brevet Brigadier-General Seth Eastman, Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. Army (retired), is hereby relieved from duty at Harrodsburg, Kentucky, and will repair to Washington and report in person to the Honorable Secretary of the Interior for duty.

The permission to delay joining his regiment granted First Lieutenant Clarence E. Bennett, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 330, June 28, 1867, from this office, is hereby extended until October 15, 1867.

The assignment of First Lieutenant Frank Y. Comma-gere, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, by the commanding officer of that regiment, to Company K, is hereby confirmed.

General Orders No. 20, July 20, 1867, from Headquarters Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, Camp Cooke, Montana

Territory, assigning the following named officers of that regiment to the companies set opposite their respective names, is hereby confirmed: Second Lieutenant W. L. Sanborn to Company E.; Second Lieutenant R. A. Edwards to Company A.

Special Orders No. 40, August 17, 1867, from Headquarters, First U. S. Artillery, Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, assigning the following-named officers of that regiment to the companies set opposite their respective names, is hereby confirmed: Second Lieutenant Leander T. Howes, to Battery K; Second Lieutenant Gilbert P. Cotton, to Battery I; Second Lieutenant Henry W. Hubbell, Jr., to Company M.

By direction of the President, the names of the following officers will be dropped from the rolls of the Army for desertion, to date from July 31, 1867: First Lieutenant Daniel H. Weiland, Sixth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant John W. Godman, Sixth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Guy Morrison, Tenth U. S. Infantry.

On the mutual application of the officers concerned, the following transfers in the First U. S. Artillery, approved by the Secretary of War, are hereby announced: Captain R. H. Jackson (Brevet Brigadier-General,) from Company D, to Company L; Captain Henry W. Clossen (Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel,) from Company L, to Company D; Brevet Brigadier-General R. H. Jackson will join his proper station without delay.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for sixteen days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant John F. Weston, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

Permission to delay reporting to his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Captain Charles W. Miner, Twenty-second U. S. Infantry.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 269, Paragraph 2, from this office, dated May 25, 1867, as honorably musters out of service Additional Paymaster Albert P. Shreve (Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel) U. S. Volunteers, to take effect July 1, 1867, is hereby amended to date September 30, 1867.

Permission to delay reporting for duty to the commanding officer, Newport Barracks, Kentucky, for thirty days, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant James H. Whitten, Fifth U. S. Infantry.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Captain Henry Sweeney, Sixtieth U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby mustered out and honorably discharged the service of the United States, to date July 21, 1867, by reason of the muster out of his command and his services being no longer required, he having been retained in service after the muster out of regiment by special authority from this office. This order will not carry travelling allowances.

Special Orders No. 37, August 23, 1867, from Headquarters Thirty-third U. S. Infantry, Atlanta, Georgia, assigning First Lieutenant William Quinton, of that regiment, to Company K, is hereby confirmed.

**AUGUST 29.**—So much of Special Orders No. 380, July 27, 1867, from this office, as granted Second Lieutenant Thomas W. Gibson, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, leave of absence for thirty days, is hereby amended so as to grant him permission to delay thirty days.

Permission to delay reporting to his regiment until October 15, 1867, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Frank P. Gross, Ninth U. S. Cavalry.

Brevet Captain Arthur Morris, Fourth U. S. Artillery, will report in person, without delay, to Brevet Major-General Butterfield, Superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York City, for temporary duty.

Brevet Brigadier-General C. H. Tompkins, Deputy Quartermaster-General, will proceed to New Orleans, Louisiana, as soon as he has completed the transfer of the property, etc., in his possession at the Washington Depot, and report in person to the Commanding General, Fifth Military District, for assignment to duty as Chief Quartermaster of that District, relieving Brevet Brigadier-General Sawtelle, Quartermaster.

General Sawtelle, upon being thus relieved, will report in person to the Quartermaster-General for orders.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the stoppage against the pay of Lieutenant Alexander Grant, First U. S. Cavalry, directed by Paragraph 8, Special Orders No. 333, July 1, 1867, from this office, will be removed, he having rendered to this office satisfactory explanations as to the cause of the non-rendition of his recruiting accounts for November, 1866, and return of recruiting property for part of the quarter ending December 31, 1866.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the stoppage against the pay of Captain H. C. Corbin, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry, directed by Paragraph 10, Special Orders No. 333, July 1, 1867, from this office, will be removed, he having rendered to this office his recruiting accounts for January, 1867.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant A. B. Curtis, Eighth U. S. Cavalry.

Permission to delay joining their regiment for thirty days is hereby granted the following-named officers: Second Lieutenant H. W. Smith, Seventh U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant Edward Law, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major Daniel T. Wells, Eighth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 112, current series, from Headquarters, Second Military District, is hereby extended fifteen days.

Commanders of the Military Districts created under the act of March 2, 1867, will make no appointments to civil office of persons who have been removed by themselves or their predecessors in command.

**AUGUST 30TH.**—The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant W. S. Smoot, Ordnance Department, in Special Orders No. 344, July 8, 1867, from this office, is hereby extended twenty days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the assignment of Second Lieutenant Alfred C. Markley, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, by the commanding officer of that regiment, is hereby confirmed.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 36, August 21, 1867, from Headquarters Thirty-third U. S. Infantry, Augusta, Ga., as assigned Second Lieutenant Andrew J. Kelley, of that regiment, to Company E, is hereby confirmed.

The permission to delay joining his regiment granted

First Lieutenant John B. Nixon, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 393, August 3d, 1867, from this office, is hereby extended twenty days.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Charles Bendi, First U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 116, June 28, 1867, from Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended four months. Permission to go beyond sea is granted by the Secretary of War.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Wilson, Commissary of Subsistence, will repair to New York City, for consultation with Brevet Major-General H. F. Clarke, Assistant Commissary General of Subsistence, on matters connected with the Subsistence Department. On the completion of this duty he will return to his proper station.

Second Lieutenant W. R. Bourne, Forty-second U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands in the State of Kentucky, and will proceed, without delay, to join his regiment in the Department of the East.

Second Lieutenant W. P. Hogarty, Forty-fifth U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby detailed for duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, and will report in person, without delay, to Brevet Brigadier-General S. Burbank, Colonel Second U. S. Infantry, Assistant Commissioner for the State of Kentucky, for assignment to duty. This order to take effect September 1, 1867.

Captain M. E. Lucas, Military Storekeeper, Quartermaster's Department, Pittsburg, Pa., will at once relieve Brevet Major George E. Alden, Assistant Quartermaster, on duty at that depot, of his property responsibility.

Major Alden, on being thus relieved, will proceed at once to Savannah, Ga., and report by letter to the Commanding General and Chief Quartermaster Third Military District, for assignment to duty in charge of that depot, relieving Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Reynolds, Assistant Quartermaster er.

The telegraphic order of the 29th instant, from this office, extending until October 15, 1867, the leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Frank D. Garrett, Forty-third U. S. Infantry (Veteran Reserve Corps), in Special Orders No. 82, July 2, 1867, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, is hereby confirmed.

Leave of absence for sixty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Captain Joseph B. Rife, Sixth U. S. Infantry.

**AUGUST 31.**—Brevet Major Mason Jackson, Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, will report in person to the commanding officer, Newport Barracks, Kentucky, for medical treatment by the Surgeon at that post.

Major and Brevet Colonel J. H. Taylor, Assistant Adjutant-General, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Washington, and assigned to duty at Headquarters Second Military District. He will report in person, without delay, accordingly.

Major and Brevet Colonel E. H. Ludington, Assistant Inspector-General, is hereby relieved from duty in the War Department, and from his present special inspection duties, and assigned to duty at Headquarters Second Military District. He will report in person, without delay, accordingly.

The telegraphic order of the 30th instant, from this office, directing Brevet Major-General Rufus Ingalls, Assistant Quartermaster-General, New York City, to pay Second Lieutenant E. G. Fast, Second U. S. Artillery, five hundred dollars advance mileage, to San Francisco, California, is hereby confirmed.

Permission to delay starting to join his regiment until October 11, 1867, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant O. B. Boyd, Eighth U. S. Cavalry.

Permission to delay starting to join his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted First Lieutenant J. H. Mahnken, Eighth U. S. Cavalry.

Permission to delay thirty days in joining his regiment is hereby granted Second Lieutenant S. R. Colladay, Tenth U. S. Cavalry.

Permission to delay compliance with so much of Special Orders No. 431, August 31, 1867, from this office, as directed Brevet Colonel J. H. Taylor, Assistant Adjutant General, to report in person, without delay, at Headquarters, Second Military District, is hereby granted him for thirty days.

Captain George B. Hoge, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, will proceed to join his regiment at Brownsville, Texas. Permission to delay reporting until October 15, 1867, is hereby granted him.

Permission to delay joining his battery until October 15, 1867, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant G. P. Cotton, First U. S. Artillery.

The resignation of First Lieutenant T. B. Von Michalowski (Brevet Captain), First U. S. Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect August 28, 1867, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

The leave of absence granted Chaplain George W. Pepper, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 104, July 20, 1867, from Headquarters Second Military District, is hereby extended ten days.

**SEPTEMBER 2.**—Leave of absence for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Constantine Chase, Third U. S. Artillery.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, approved by the Secretary of War, the following transfers in the First U. S. Artillery are hereby announced: First Lieutenant C. P. Eakin, Brevet Major, from Company H to Company G; First Lieutenant E. D. Wheeler, from Company G to Company H. First Lieutenant E. D. Wheeler will join his proper company without delay.

Permission to delay reporting to his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant John S. McEwan, Fourth U. S. Artillery.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major Samuel A. Storrow, Assistant-Surgeon, in Special Orders No. 52, May 22, 1867, from Headquarters Department of the Cumberland, is hereby extended ten days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Brigadier-General R. C. Wood, Surgeon, is hereby relieved from

duty at Fort Adams, Rhode Island, and stationed at New York City. This order to take effect October 15, 1867.

#### VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

The Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL, all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

INFORMATION has been received at the Navy Department of the death of Captain W. Hale, U. S. Marine Corps. He died at Pensacola, Fla., of yellow fever, on the 28th ult.

THE *Guerriere*, flag-ship of Rear Admiral Charles H. Davis, arrived at Rio de Janeiro July 26th, twenty-nine days from Boston. Rear-Admiral Godon was relieved from the command of the South Atlantic Squadron on July 30th.

REAR-ADmiral Palmer, in the flag-ship *Susquehanna*, was at Aspinwall on the 19th of August, and was to sail on that day with the *Monongahela* for Cartagena, Santa Martha, Curacao, Porto Cabello, and Laguayra, expecting to reach Hampton Roads early in September. He reports that it is very sickly all along the coast. The *Penobscot*, which left some time since for China, had returned to St. Thomas, reaching that place July 24th. She sailed on the 6th of August for Christiana, Santa Cruz.

The *Nyspic* sailed from Rio for Santos on the 5th of July and returned on the 14th. On the 6th of July the *Huron* sailed from Rio for Montevideo. On the 14th of July the *Pavone* sailed from Ilha Grande and returned on the 24th. On the 20th of July the *Oneida* arrived at Rio from the Cape de Verde en route to China. On the 21st of July the *Kansas* arrived at Rio from St. Catharine's. The *Wasp* has been at Pavon for target exercise. The Fourth of July was celebrated both at Rio and Montevideo with much enthusiasm by the squadron and Americans generally, assisted by foreign men-of-war.

We have the following from San Francisco under date of the 12th ultimo: The *Pensacola* is still undergoing repair at Mare Island. They will not probably be finished and the ship ready to go to sea before the last of September. The *Resaca* arrived at this port last week from Panama. A day or two after her departure from Panama the yellow fever made its appearance on board. Up to present date there have been about seventy cases, eighteen of which have resulted fatally. There have been two deaths since her arrival at this port. Thus far the disease has been confined to the enlisted men. No case among the officers. Rear-Admiral Thatcher has ordered the *Resaca* and the *Jamestown* to proceed to Russian America, and these two ships will probably start on next Monday. The *Ossipee* has gone to Mare Island for repair. The *Saranac* still lies off San Francisco as the flag ship. She will have to undergo considerable repair, probably, before taking another cruise, as her boilers are worn out.

NEW YORK NAVY-YARD.—The *Colorado*, Commander Steedman commanding, arrived at this yard on Saturday, 31st ult., and is now landing her stores, upon the completion of which she will go out of commission. The *Academy*, Acting Master John Ritchie, commanding, arrived from Washington on Monday, the 2d instant, with consignments for the different departments, and will return immediately with a draft of men for the *Marblehead*, fitting out at Washington. The *Shawmut*, Commander Stone, commanding, has been inspected, and will proceed at once to Aspinwall, to relieve the *Saco*. Commodore Melanthon Smith, Chief of Bureau Equipment and Recruiting, visited the yard on Tuesday, and was received with the customary salute. The Commodore will visit the other yards in regular order. The *Brooklyn* is looked for daily. The work on the *Idaho*, *Moshula*, *Java* and new steamer is progressing well. The *Osceola* requires extensive repairs, which, if made, will occupy several weeks.

The *Brooklyn*, steam corvette, 20 guns, arrived at Philadelphia on the 3d instant, thirty-four days from Rio de Janeiro, after being absent from the United States over two years, during which time she has served as the flag-ship of the South Atlantic squadron, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Godon. The following is a list of the officers who returned in the *Brooklyn*: Commander of squadron and staff: Rear-Admiral S. W. Godon, late commanding South Atlantic squadron; Lieutenant Commander J. D. Navin, Acting Fleet Captain; Master B. H. McCalla, Acting Fleet Lieutenant; Surgeon A. C. Gorgas, Fleet Surgeon; Paymaster George Plunkett, Fleet Paymaster; Chief Engineer E. S. De Luce, Fleet Engineer; First Lieutenant W. B. McLean, Fleet Marine Officer; Admiral's Secretary, G. E. Yardley. The following is a list of the officers of the U. S. sloop-of-war *Brooklyn*: Captain, Thomas H. Patterson; Lieutenant Commanders, F. V. McNair, C. E. McKay and H. C. Tallman; Lieutenant C. V. Gridley; Acting Master, George F. Winslow; Acting Ensigns, J. L. Vennard and A. W. Snow; Mate, G. B. Studley; Surgeon, A. C. Gorgas; Acting Assistant Surgeon, Nelson Ingram; Paymaster, George Plunkett; Chief Engineer, E. S. De Luce; First Assistant Engineers, L. R. Greene and H. W. Robie; Second Assistant Engineer, W. A. Mintzer; Acting Third Assistant Engineers, E. C. Brooks, John D. Thompson and W. A. Bowie; First Lieutenant of Marines, W. B. McLean; Admiral's Clerk, Charles S. Wheeler; Captain's Clerk, R. H. Patterson; Paymaster's Clerk, George Thompson; Boatswain, C. Miller; Gunner, F. Cassidy; Carpenter, E. Thomson; Sailor, J. Stanford.

NAVAL LIBRARY AND INSTITUTE, BOSTON NAVY YARD.—At the regular monthly meeting, held in the Institute rooms, Saturday, August 31st, Commodore John Rodgers, U. S. N., President, presiding, Chief Engineer B. B. H. Wharton, U. S. N., and Passed Assistant Surgeon Gustavus S. Franklin, U. S. N., were elected members. Letters from Prof. Agassiz and Prof. Benjamin F. Pierce, accepting honorary membership, were read. The Librarian reported that the set of *North American Review* had been completed and uniformly bound, and that ten bound volumes, and eight pamphlets, had been added to the library, and donations had been received from Hon. Wm. M.

Stone, Governor of Iowa, Brevet Major E. C. Boynton, U. S. A., Hon. Wm. Faxon, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Hon. George Washington Warren, and Acting Volunteer Lieutenant W. W. Crowingfield, U. S. N.

The Curator reported that the collections in the museum had been entirely re-arranged under the direction of Mr. Samuel B. Massa, and that valuable donations to the museum had been received from Mr. S. B. Massa, Surgeon A. L. Gibon, U. S. N., Capt. John Guest, U. S. N., and Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Wm. W. Crowingfield, U. S. N.

Among Lieutenant Crowingfield's donations is a curious letter of marque, written on parchment, and issued to the "Brig *Eolus*, of the burthen of about two hundred and twenty-nine tons, foreign built, square stern, scroll head, and two masts; mounted with ten carriage guns ramming shot of six and twelve pounds weight, and navigated with thirty-six men, of whom one third are landmen, and belonging to the Port of London. Whereof Francis Hocquard is Commander, and Frederic de Lisle, of London, merchant, is the principal," and goes on to say that the *Eolus* is authorized "by force of arms to seize and take the ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the United States," etc., and is dated at London on the 28th of January, 1813.

#### EXAMINING BOARDS.

The following officers have, since last report, passed an examination before the Examining Board in session at Louisville, Ky.: Second Lieutenant Hunsley S. Maloney, Thirty-third Infantry; First Lieutenant Daniel M. Page, Thirty-eighth Infantry; First Lieutenant Andrew Geddes, Forty-third Infantry; Captain Charles D. Byers, Forty-first Infantry; Second Lieutenant Hampden S. Cottell, Thirtyninth Infantry; Second Lieutenant William W. McCammon, Fourteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant John Little, Thirty-fifth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Andrew J. Kelley, Thirty-third Infantry; Second Lieutenant Benjamin M. Pratt, Forty-fourth Infantry; First Lieutenant H. J. Farnsworth, Thirty-fourth Infantry; Captain Chas. W. Miner, Twenty-second Infantry; Captain George B. Hoge, Forty-first Infantry; Second Lieutenant Frank H. Palmer, Thirty-sixth Infantry; First Lieutenant Henry R. Brinkerhoff, Thirty-eighth Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. H. Todd, Eighteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant George K. Spencer, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Eugene Pickett, Twelfth Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. E. Macklin, Thirty-first Infantry.

The Examining Board in session at Louisville, Ky., is composed of the following officers: Brevet Brigadier-General A. Cady, Colonel U. S. A. (retired), President; Lieutenant-Colonel T. L. Alexander, U. S. A. (retired); Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. N. Caldwell, Major U. S. A. (retired); First Lieutenant John W. Whitten, Adjutant Second Infantry, Recorder; Brevet Major Charles R. Greenleaf, Assistant Surgeon U. S. A., Examining Surgeon. The following officers have been relieved since last report: Brevet Major-General P. St. George Cooke, Brigadier-General U. S. A.; Brevet Brigadier-General S. Burbank, Colonel Second Infantry.

The following officers have passed a satisfactory examination, since last report, before the Examining Board, of which Major-General Heintzelman is President, now in session in the City of New York: Second Lieutenant W. A. Newton, Thirty-fourth Infantry; Second Lieutenant James F. Simpson, Fortieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Augustine McIntyre, Sixteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant John Anderson, Twenty-fifth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Albert Austin, Fourteenth Infantry; Captain Clarence E. Bennett, Seventeenth Infantry.

The following-named officers have appeared before the Examining Board in session at Washington, D. C., for examination for the cavalry arm of the service: First Lieutenants John H. Mehnen, Eighth Regiment, and G. B. Bosworth, Ninth Regiment; Second Lieutenants Samuel T. Hamilton and Charles H. Pettit, Second Regiment; Oscar Elting, A. B. Williams, and H. W. Smith, Third Regiment; William L. Porter, Fifth Regiment; Henry M. Kendall, Sixth Regiment; J. H. Shellabarger, John T. Weston, Edward Law, and H. W. Smith, Seventh Regiment; A. B. Curtiss, Eighth Regiment; Fred. R. Vincent and Frank P. Gross, Ninth Regiment; William H. Beck, S. L. Woodard, and Samuel R. Calladay, Tenth Regiment.

#### NEW BOOKS.

HARPER & BROTHERS publish a very neat reprint of Queen Victoria's "Memoirs of the Prince Consort," which has attracted so much attention in England. This book, which closes with the first year of the married life of Albert and Victoria, was compiled under the direction of the Queen by Lieutenant-General the Honorable C. Grey. It was at first intended that this memoir should be circulated only among the royal family and some of their more intimate friends. On subsequent consideration, it was determined to give it to the public lest a copy might be surreptitiously obtained and published in a garbled form.

We learn from the preface that it is proposed to follow the present memoir with other volumes, giving an account of the public life of Prince Albert after his marriage.

TICKNOR & FIELDS have issued "Bleak House" as another volume of their "Diamond Dickens." The Diamond is undoubtedly the neatest and most compact edition of the works of this popular author. The smallness of the type is an objection to many readers, but, after the eye becomes accustomed to it, the correctness of the typography and printing in a great measure obviate or greatly modify this difficulty.

The following is a roster of officers stationed at Fort Reno, D. T.: Major James Van Voast, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, commanding; Captain M. L. Ogden, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, commanding company; Captain W. P. McCleery, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, commanding company; Lieutenant W. F. Whitehead, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, commanding company; Lieutenant H. E. Luther, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, commanding company and post adjutant; Assistant-Surgeon Charles Mackin, Jr.

post surgeon. The garrison consists of Companies B, C, E, and G, Eighteenth Infantry, at present engaged in remodeling the post, building quarters, performing escort duty, etc., etc. The four companies of the Eighteenth at this post have the reputation of being among the finest lot of soldiers on the plains. They are full to repletion, are perfect in the manual of arms, company, battalion, and skirmish drills, and are as clean, orderly, and effective as lies in the power of troops to be.

#### PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT.

##### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, By the Constitution of the United States the executive power is vested in a President of the United States of America, who is bound by solemn oath faithfully to execute the office of President and to the best of his ability to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and is by the same instrument made Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and is required to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and Whereas, By the same Constitution it is provided that the said Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, shall be the supreme law of the land, and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby; and

Whereas, In and by the same Constitution the judicial power of the United States is vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as Congress may from time to time ordain and establish, and the aforesaid judicial power is declared to extend to all cases in law and equity, arising under the Constitution, the laws of the United States, and the treaties which shall be made under their authority; and

Whereas, All officers, civil and military, are bound by oath that they will support and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and

Whereas, All officers of the Army and Navy of the United States in accepting their commissions under the laws of Congress and the Rules and Articles of War, incur an obligation to observe, obey, and follow such directions as they shall from time to time receive from the President, or the General, or other superior officers set over them according to the rules and discipline of war; and

Whereas, It is provided by law that whenever, by reason of unlawful obstructions, combinations, or assemblages of persons, or rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, it shall become impracticable in the judgment of the President of the United States to enforce, by the ordinary course of judicial proceeding, the laws of the United States within any State or Territory, the Executive in that case is authorized and required to secure their faithful execution by the employment of the land and naval forces; and

Whereas, Impediments and obstructions serious in their character have recently been interposed in the States of North Carolina and South Carolina, hindering and preventing for a time a proper enforcement of the laws of the United States, and of the judgments and decrees of a lawful court thereof, in disregard of the command of the President of the United States; and

Whereas, Reasonable and well-founded apprehensions exist that such ill-advised and unlawful proceedings may be again attempted there or elsewhere.

Now, therefore, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby warn all persons against obstructing or hindering in any manner whatsoever the faithful execution of the Constitution and the laws, and I do solemnly enjoin and command all officers of the Government, civil and military, to render due submission and obedience to said laws, and to the judgments and decrees of the courts of the United States, and to give all the aid in their power necessary to the prompt enforcement and execution of said laws, decrees, judgments, and process, and I do hereby enjoin upon the officers of the Army and Navy to assist and sustain the courts and other civil authorities of the United States, in a faithful administration of the laws thereof, and in the judgments, decrees, mandates, and processes of the courts of the United States. And I call upon all good and well-disposed citizens of the United States to remember that upon the said Constitution and the laws, and upon the judgments, decrees and process of the courts made in accordance with the same, depend the protection of the lives, liberty, property and happiness of the people. And I exhort them everywhere to testify their devotion to their country; their pride in its prosperity and greatness, and their determination to uphold its free institutions by a hearty co-operation in the efforts of the Government to sustain the authority of the law, to maintain the supremacy of the Federal Constitution, and to preserve unimpaired the integrity of the National Union.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and sign the same with my hands.

Done at the City of Washington, the third day of September, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### SOLDIERS' CHECK-BOOKS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Paragraph 1,385 of the Revised Army Regulations says: "Soldiers may deposit with the Paymaster any portion of their pay, not less than \$5 at a time, and a certificate of every deposit made shall be placed in a check-book to be furnished by the Paymaster, and signed by both Paymaster and company commander." Now, this is undoubtedly meant to be the soldiers' saving bank, and, without any appearance to animadversion, I wish to ask why these check-books are not furnished? There certainly would be large sums of money left with the Government if this provision were acted upon, and it appears to me that the Treasury Department would be benefitted by these loans.

I can with safety assert that it would be a great advantage to the soldier. Numbers would, on the impulse of the moment, make deposits, which, in accordance with the paragraph, they could not withdraw until the expiration of their term of service. As it is, if they deposit with banks, the attendant expenses of express or exchange is borne by the depositor, and in three years the man will pay out no small sum in this way. I hold that it would be a splendid prevention against desertion, for men who had made deposits would be loath to part with them, knowing them to be safe, and not liable to forfeiture. It is one of the few advantages that our Government has given us, and should be carried out by Paymasters.

H. S.

##### NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' SHOULDER BELTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Please insert the following in your valuable paper. Some of the ordnance officers may chance to see it, and perhaps they will act on the suggestion: The Ordnance Department issues for non-commissioned officers and musicians an "old-fashioned shoulder-belt." Who ever saw a sergeant or musician wear one? I would suggest that a neat "frog" be supplied instead. At present every pattern of frog is used by sergeants and musicians, which looks anything but soldierlike, but pleases the fancy of the wearer. Perhaps the Ordnance Department will stop this irregularity.

A COMPANY COMMANDER.

SUMTER, S. C., August 15, 1867.

## CHANGES OF STATION.

*To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.*

SIR: Is there any record kept at the War Department of the service performed by the different regiments in the service? If so, why is it that the old regiments that have records of from eight to eighteen years of frontier service before the war, and have been in the field throughout the war, are now sent to the frontier, while over thirty new regiments, without any record of frontier service, are retained comfortably in the States? Is it because the new regiments have stronger political influence than the old regiments, and can select the posts at which they will serve? This is the general impression among the old regiments.

Does the Government expect men to serve continuously in the field and on the frontier for fifteen or twenty years without becoming rough, unpolished brutes?

Why cannot some just and regular system be adopted in our service by which regiments can be changed from one department to another sufficiently often to promote the discipline and welfare of the troops, and consequently of the service, and yet give at least six months' warning to the troops to be moved?

In European services a regular system is adopted, and, in most armies, they have at least one year's notice of when and where they are going. Their War Department endeavors to promote the comfort and save expense to both officers and men, and, when an emergency arises, causing a sudden change of station, the troops submit to the hardship, knowing that, had there been time to do so, the War Department would have given them warning of the proposed change.

In the English service troops on duty at foreign stations, officers and men, receive double the pay they receive when on duty in England. Why do not our troops on the frontier receive double pay; the prices there for the necessities of life are more than three times what they are in the States.

In our service everything is different. We look upon department headquarters and the headquarters at Washington as our declared enemies. They seem to be delighted when they can, in the most sudden and unexpected manner, order us a thousand miles away, "without delay," and drop us in the snow and mud where no preparation has been made to receive us.

Why do people wonder that soldiers desert and officers grumble when there are no tents to cover them and the snow two feet deep? Of course we, officers and men, ridicule, laugh at, and all, but not obey, every order issued from Washington or the Department Headquarters, because we are in a chronic state of uncertainty. Our children are ill, or a change of station would make us uncomfortable, or would put us in debt and trouble for a year. Yet we open every official envelope with fear and trembling, not knowing but that it contains the fatal order, and feeling that the Headquarters delight in keeping us in ignorance of any proposed change; why, we cannot say. The *Grapevine Telegraph* has not informed us that the Sioux *Herald*, Cheyenne *Democrat*, or Arapahoe *Bulletin*, keep special reporter in Washington or at Department Headquarters.

One regiment was forced to start, on a two hours' notice, for the frontier, a trip of nineteen hundred miles, not knowing what duty they were to perform, or to what posts the different companies were to go. Just imagine the trouble, annoyance, and expense to an officer's family—breaking up housekeeping, selling household stuff at a sacrifice, withdrawing children from school and supplying them with clothing for an entirely different climate, employing servants willing to go to the wilderness, and all on a two hours' notice. During a war or in an emergency everybody submits without much grumbling, but when an officer reaches the end of the railroad line, where the railroad company have not as yet built a depot, where a quartermaster is stationed who has not been warned of their coming and consequently has made no arrangements to receive them, and the officers, their wives and children, the troops and laundresses and their children have to depend on the humanity of the railroad company for the use of freight cars to protect them from the storm for thirty-six hours, although the mercury is below zero. When the march commenced as the ground was frozen and tent-pegs could not be driven into it, and everybody slept on instead of under tents (in one case an officer's child, a babe of a few months old), with the mercury twenty degrees below zero, is it to be wondered at that the obtuse intellect of enlisted men and regimental officers could not enable them to see the emergency, and that the officers did *damn* and *swear*, and did injure the discipline of the men by doing so in their hearing! Is it strange that the men should have deserted in squads?

A regiment, lately ordered to the frontier, was taken by surprise. It had served continuously on the frontier for ten or twelve years, and went from the frontier to the field at the commencement of the war, and remained there until the war closed. Knowing there were plenty of new regiments, this regiment did not expect any detail for frontier service for several years. The officers had (in many cases on borrowed money) furnished their quarters handsomely for the comfort of their families, and in order to enable their relatives and friends to visit them, when the order moving them over two thousand miles was received. The wives of nine officers were expecting to be confined within three months. One officer had furnished rooms for expected guests, and when the order was received, his carpets had been tacked down; but twenty-four hours, and he was obliged to sell for a trifle over one hundred dollars articles that he had three days before paid over three hundred dollars for. One officer was to be married in a few days. He had purchased the necessary articles to make his quarters comfortable for his bride; the articles arrived from New York City the same day he received the order to move, and he was forced to sell the articles at a great sacrifice, without taking them out of the packing cases. He is not married, doubtless greatly to his and the young lady's disgust.

It is strange that the officers who, twenty or thirty years ago, submitted to and allowed their wives and families to be exposed to these hardships, are persons who are now in a position to protect us; yet, instead of doing so,

they seem desirous of forcing us (in spite of the progress and improvements in civilized life) to experience as bad, if not worse, than they were subjected to a half century ago.

When we youngsters grumble, the old fogies relate an exceptional case in their lives where they endured greater hardships; when we grumble for our families, they claim that in Florida or Arkansas they, with a wife and two or three children, occupied a single wall tent or one room with a single officer. (We don't doubt the latter statement, for it has occurred in the last year in our experience. We cannot compliment the *high-toned chivalry* of a single officer who would not prefer to give up his right to the half of a room or tent than to intrude upon the privacy of a lady).

We cannot for a moment imagine that this method of living improved the discipline of the troops, or refined the ideas of the ladies and children. The efficiency of an army depends upon the pride and high tone existing among the officers. The tone and refinement of officers depend upon the ladies (officers' wives) with whom they associate. Enlisted men usually take their cue from the senior officer; if he forces a junior officer and his family to live like brutes, the men soon look upon the subaltern with contempt, and fail to obey his orders promptly. The refinement natural to ladies is certainly not increased by depriving them of the comforts as well as luxuries of life, in addition to violating all their ideas of delicacy and propriety by placing them, for weeks at a time, where they cannot, night or day, sick or well, be free from the eyes (or at least, ears) of men not their husbands.

YOUNGSTER.

## A SUMMER UNIFORM NEEDED.

*To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.*

SIR: There is one thing in particular exercising the minds and also the tongues of a numerous class of military men stationed all over the South at the present day, and which no less affects our brethren upon the Western plains, and that is the subject of a suitable uniform for both officers and men—but specially the enlisted men—during the excessive heat of Summer. The heavy woollen clothing which the rank and file of our Army are condemned to wear under the burning rays of a Midsummer sun, whether upon the Western plains or in the Southern portion of our country, is almost undurable during the months of June, July, and August, and I, as well as numbers of the best men in our Army, believe that it is only necessary to bring this grievance—for assuredly grievance it is—fully before the eyes and minds of those who have the power to grant relief, and it will be done. I do not presume to suggest what material should be used. I would simply ask, as a special favor to poor, sweltering, melting, perspiring humanity—at least that portion serving our Government, and willing to fight and die, if necessary, for the honor and glory of our old Stars and Stripes—that we might obtain the boon of "lighter clothing" during Summer. Anything under God's heavens would be better than the heavy woollen cloth we are now compelled to wear, both Summer and Winter. Oh! if the gentlemen who make our laws, our rules, and regulations, could only experience for one day the almost insufferable heat and torment of wearing heavy Army pants on fatigue, drill, or any other duty, under a burning sun, in the months of July or August, I would wager my head, although it is the only one I have, that it would take an exceedingly short space of time to effect a change; and it is with the hope that this article will meet the eye of some of the gentlemen above referred to, I write it, and we know that if the *soldier's friend*—General Grant—sees it, and will give it his serious thoughts for only five short minutes, he will acknowledge that Army blue is rather heavy cloth to wear under a July sun about the latitude of Vicksburg. Allow me here to say that at Leavenworth, Riley, Kearny, Randall, Laramie, Bridger, and Camp Crittenden it is as bad as at Vicksburg, for I have experienced it personally at all but the latter place. Hoping earnestly that this appeal in behalf of those suffering for want of proper Summer clothing may not be in vain, I leave the matter for the present. OLD SOLDIER.

## CAUSE OF DESERTIONS.

*To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.*

SIR: In an editorial in one of your recent issues are various speculations upon the causes of desertion from the Regular Army. It seems that the chief causes are not entertained—the inefficiency and unfitness in every respect of certain officers to command, and the failure of the Government in its obligations. Men are enlisted upon certain promissory conditions and representations; the failure in these, and the imposing of other conditions, of a most arbitrary character, suggested by the impulses of an illiberal, tyrannical mind, virtually absolves the man, according to his reasoning, from the obligations of his oath, and he is ready to desert whenever opportunity presents itself. Take the main camp or post in this Territory, established in the most inappropriate situation, over 200 miles from any town, on no thoroughfare, nor within the same distance of one—a country intervening full of hostile Indians, and barren of the means that could afford a deserter sustenance and protection. The Government has to thank the stupidity of one officer in selecting such a camp for the presence of a garrison which, in consequence of the mal-administration of another, would have deserted *en masse* during the Winter. The causes of their deserting are many. They have not been paid in ten months, and apparently the Government has made no effort in that direction. Officers have joined the commands by the overland route during the Winter. Why could not the Paymaster in the performance of so essential a duty? No drills have been performed since their arrival, but every day for ten hours (two longer than Congress, by a recent enactment, requires) every man, not on guard, has been obliged to work—fatigue duty in some shape—and for many mornings, when the thermometer ranged from thirty-five to forty degrees below zero, there was no suspension. To the credit of one officer, however, be it said that he protested against such an inhuman requirement; but to no avail. To add injustice to injury, such men as were performing what is termed "extra duty," were formally detailed every ten days in order to avoid

giving them the claim to extra pay which the working over that period entitled them by law to receive. In addition to these acts of inhumanity and injustice, these men were inadequately fed; or, if the ration was full, a part consisted of old and unwholesome stores, and extra bread from savings of flour, which properly belonged to them, was sold them for money, or to be deducted from their pay. The old guard, when discharging pieces, if any missed fire—in the snapping of the cap alone—the man was imprisoned at once, no matter what his record or character, as if one could tell in the prescribed time for loading that his priming was all right. No old Army officer will acknowledge justice in such a procedure. Men found drunk were, very properly, punished; but unusual efforts were made to keep liquor altogether from them, though they were frequently favored with the sight of a drunken commanding officer.

As a result of such military rule, it is a fact, unprecedented in military history, that of some two hundred men charged by reason of expiration of term of service, within three months, not one could be persuaded to re-enlist.

It seems to me that in the examination of officers, certain moral qualifications should be looked into, else there can be no security that our standing Army will be a credit to itself and the country. Its strength, at least, can never be maintained so long as it is governed by men who have no just appreciation of their own duty, and the rights of the soldier.

EX-OFFICER.

• HELENA, Montana, June 1, 1867.

## THE INERTIA FUZE.

*To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.*

SIR: I take pleasure in informing you that since you published an account of Major Beebe's "Inertia Fuze" in your last issue, further experiments have been made with it in the 15-inch Rodman Gun.

These experiments were made at Fort Mifflin in the presence of an appreciative audience, with very satisfactory results.

Major Beebe fired three shells from a 15-inch Rodman Gun, mounted on a centre pintle barbette iron carriage, at an elevation of 2 degrees 30 minutes, with a charge of forty pounds of "Mammoth" powder. This is the minimum charge for the 15-inch Rodman Gun, and was used for the purpose of giving the fuze as rigid a test as possible, by giving the shell the lowest velocity consistent with obtaining the necessary range. A bursting charge of twelve pounds of "Rifle" powder was placed in the shell, which when ready for firing weighed 335 pounds. An excellent range of about a mile and an eighth was obtained, and the object aimed at was a high bluff of yellow clay on the New Jersey shore. The first shell ricocheted five times, and burst immediately upon striking the bank, throwing up a cloud of earth and gravel. The second shell ricocheted four times, struck the bank and burst, and the third shell, having ricocheted three times, struck the bank with the same result as the first two.

Nothing could have been a more signal success, for it demonstrated the fact that though shells provided with this fuze can be safely used in ricochet firing over water, still the fuze is sufficiently sensitive to insure explosion upon impact with earth even at low velocities.

As General Meade's official duties prevented him from carrying out his desire to witness this firing, he detailed two of his staff, Brevet-Colonel Wm. W. Sanders, Judge Advocate, and Captain Chambers McKibben, Acting Assistant Inspector-General, to be present and to make him an official report of the results.

These gentlemen reported the experiment to have been an entire success, and General Meade forwarded their report, with a favorable endorsement, to the War Department at Washington. Having already received such flattering attention, it is highly probable that the War Department will soon cause this fuze to be tried officially before a board of officers.

In view of the successful trial of the 15-inch Rodman Gun in England, thorough experiments with this fuze will be looked forward to with much interest.

The inventor feels quite confident that the heaviest iron plates can be shattered severely by using the "cored shot" with a bursting charge and the "Inertia Fuze." The fact that no gas can possibly escape from the shell without bursting it, renders this supposition highly probable.

SMOOTHBORE.

## THE PAYMENT OF TROOPS.

*To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.*

SIR: In the columns of your JOURNAL I find comments and suggestions relating to various matters connected with the service, many of them of great interest, and were the reforms spoken of once inaugurated, I doubt not the service and the country at large would be greatly benefitted thereby. But among all your correspondents in the service, none have to my knowledge made mention of a system of ancient establishment, yet which I believe to be injurious to the best interests of the service. I refer to the manner of paying troops, or more especially the unfrequency of such payments.

In the Army it is well known that bi-monthly payments are the rule. Another branch of the service (the Marine Corps) is, while on shore, paid quarterly. Having had some experience in both branches of the service, and during the past seven years having closely observed the effects of long deferred payments, I take this method of bringing before your readers this matter, inviting the calm consideration of all concerned. Many are the arguments I might adduce in favor of more frequent payments, but for the present I forbear, leaving it to others for discussion.

It is the boast of the American people that our soldiers are better paid than those of any other nation. So far as the gross amount of money received, I grant it. But the benefits derived from the fifty cents *per diem* received by a private after waiting months for it, are in the aggregate very few.

Dissipation, which is the bane of the service, is in its present aggravated form the natural offspring of the old-fogy system of paying, and pay-day has become to be considered as a time set apart by enlisted men for riotous debauchery. The scenes in garrison for a few days follow-

ing pay-day, are but the results of following the baser, though perfectly natural, tendencies of human nature. Confine men to the limits of a military post for two months, then set them loose with their pockets full of greenbacks, and what is the result? But, *au contraire*, pay a soldier weekly and he will know the value of money, and will not be inclined to indulge in aught conflicting with discipline.

CHEVRON.

## THE INDIANS.

## LETTERS FROM MAJOR-GENERAL HANCOCK.

The following extracts from letters from Major-General Hancock and others give additional information on the Indian question:

On the 13th of March last Major-General Hancock addressed a letter to Colonel Wynkoop, Agent for the Cheyennes, Apaches and Arapahoes, at Fort Larned, Kansas, in which he says:

I have the honor to send you this communication for the purpose of informing you that I have about completed arrangements to move a force to the Plains, and only await a proper condition of the roads to march. My object in making an expedition at this time is to show the Indians within the limits of this department that we are able to chastise any tribes who may molest people who are travelling across the Plains. It is not my desire to bring on difficulties with the Indians; but to treat them with justice and according to our treaty stipulations; and I desire especially in my dealings with them to act through their agents as far as practicable. In reference to the Cheyennes of your agency in particular, I may say that we have just grounds of grievance. One is that they have not delivered up the murderer of the New Mexican, at Zoro. I also believe that I have evidence sufficient to fix upon different bands of that tribe whose chiefs are known to have been in several of the outrages committed on the Smoky Hill last summer. I request that you will inform them in such a manner as you may think proper, that I expect shortly to visit their neighborhood, and that I will be glad to have an interview with their chiefs; and tell them also, if you please, that I go fully prepared for peace or war, and that hereafter I will insist on their keeping off the main lines of travel, where their presence is calculated to bring about collision with the whites. If you can prevail upon the Indians of your agency to abandon their habits of infesting the country traversed by our overland routes, threatening, robbing and intimidating travellers, we will defer that matter to you. If not I would be pleased by your presence with me when I visit the locality of your tribes, to show that the officers of the Government are acting in harmony.

Major H. Douglas, under date of March 14, writes to Major Henry E. Noyes:

I have received from little Raven, head chief of the Arapahoes, a message to the effect that no more wood must be cut by this command on the Pawnee Fork, and that the troops must move out of the country by the time grass grows. Mr. Jones, the interpreter at this post, brought me a message from Santato, the principal chief of the Kiowas, to the effect that all white men must move out of Council Grove by the Spring; that he gave me ten days to move from this post; that he wanted the mules and cavalry horses fattened, as he would have use for them, as he intended to appropriate them; that all the Indians had agreed to stop the railroads and roads at Council Grove; that no roads or rail roads will be allowed west of that point. Major J. H. Page, Third Infantry, brought me a message from the same chief: "Tell the chiefs on the road that they must gather their soldiers and leave; if they do not I will help them to leave. No wagons will be allowed on the road except those that bring presents; if any are found they will be taken." Subsequently, in council Santato stated in substance the same, but not in the insulting manner which has already been reported to the district headquarters. It has also been reported to me that eight Arapahoes, apparently friendly, stopped on the 10th inst. at the camp of a Mr. Gilchrist, a wagon-master for a Mr. H. Wadell, of Mori, New Mexico, on the other side of Fort Aubrey, one hundred and twenty miles from here, shot at the herd, and ran off forty head of mules and one mare.

One of the letters above referred to by General Hancock acquaints Colonel Wynkoop that the object in preparing an expedition to the Plains is to convince the Indians that we are able to punish any of them who may molest travellers across the Plains, or who may commit other hostilities against the whites. He says:

We desire to avoid any trouble with them, and to treat them with justice and according to the requirements of treaties with them, and I wish especially in my dealings with them to act through the agents of the Indian Department as far as it is possible to do so. Concerning the Kiowas of your agency, we have grave reasons for complaint. Among others, it is officially reported to these headquarters that that tribe has been making hostile incursions into Texas, and that a war party has very recently returned to Fort Dodge from that State, bringing with them the scalps of fourteen colored soldiers and one white man. I am also informed that the Kiowas have been threatening our posts in Arkansas; that they are about entering into a compact with the Sioux for hostilities against us, and that they have robbed and insulted officers of the United States Army who have visited them, supposing that they were friends. It is well ascertained that certain members of that tribe (some of whom are known), are guilty of the murder of James Box, a citizen of Montague county, Texas, last summer, and of the capture and barbarous treatment of women in his family. I desire you to particularly explain to them that one reason why the Government does not at once send troops against them to redress these outrages against our people is that their Great Father is averse to commencing a war upon them (which would certainly end in destroying them), until all other means of redress fail. I request that you will inform the Indians of your agency that I will hereafter insist upon their keeping off the main routes of travel across the Plains, where their presence is calculated to bring about difficulties between themselves and the whites. If you, as their agent, can arrange these matters satisfactorily with them, we will be pleased to refer the whole subject to you. In case of your inability to do so, I would be pleased to have you accompany me when I visit the country of your tribes, to show that the officers of the Government are acting in harmony. I will be pleased to talk with any of the chiefs whom you may meet.

A large number of other documents show the hostile character of Indians, and their massacres and depredations.

General Ord, in a communication dated March 5, says:

The wild Comanches are bent on mischief. From the fact that they steal from the frontiers, and have supplied themselves with large caravans, that they supply horses to the Northern Indians on the mail route, I think it important to put a stop to their wholesale plundering. I propose building posts in their country, as that demoralizes them more than anything else except money and whiskey.

Among the documents is a letter from Major-General Hancock, dated Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, July 31, 1867, addressed to Headquarters of the Army of the United States, in which he says he has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of certain communications named by him, and continues:

In reply to the letters of Colonels Wynkoop and Leavenworth, herein referred to, and a telegram dated May 23, 1867, from General Grant, upon the subject of the burning of the Indian villages at Pawnee Fork, August 23, 1867, I have the honor to submit the following statement, first premising that I have replied to General Grant's telegram of May 23d, by a telegram of the same date, and that in my official report of the operations of the expedition made last Spring to the Plains under my command, forwarded to General Grant, by Lieutenant-General Sherman, a full and accurate history is given of the objects of that expedition, and the military movements connected with it, together with my reasons for destroying the villages of the Sioux and Cheyennes on the Pawnee Fork, etc.

The report in question touches on the main points mentioned in the copies of the letters from Colonels Wynkoop and Leavenworth, referred to me by General Grant, May 23, 1867, and is believed to be sufficiently full in details to cover the questions mentioned therein; yet there are a few statements made in some of them which are inaccurate, and which I desire to correct. They are as follows:

Among the letters enclosed is a copy of one from Colonel Wynkoop, dated Headquarters, District of the Upper Arkansas, March 14, 1867, stating that Wilson Graham, the Cheyenne boy, who was captured from that tribe some time since, is now en route to this post (Fort Riley). As soon as he arrives he will be sent to you, in order that he may be delivered to his nearest relatives. Please inform this office of the name and bond of his nearest relatives.

No authority was ever given by me to the commanding officer of

the district of the Upper Arkansas to transfer the child in question to any agent of the Indian Department whatever. On the contrary, I informed the commanding officer at Fort Larned, through Headquarters District of the Upper Arkansas, in a letter, dated at these headquarters, 11th of March, 1867, (copy enclosed, marked A), that the boy in question, who was then under my charge at Fort Leavenworth, would be sent to that post (Fort Larned) for delivery to his nearest relatives, and that he had been obtained from the persons who had had possession of him since his capture, through the exertions of the military authorities. This action on my part being in accordance with the instructions I had received on that subject from Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, in a special order, dated St. Louis, Mo., February 23, 1867, (copy enclosed, marked B). The boy being too unwell to travel as soon as was anticipated, I detained him here until I started with the expedition to the Plains, March 25, when he accompanied me, and was delivered by me personally to the commanding officer at Fort Larned, leaving with him the following instructions:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,  
NEAR FORT LARNED, KANSAS, April 12, 1866.

To the Commanding Officer, Fort Larned:

SIR:—On leaving the camp it is the intention of the Major-General commanding to place in your charge the Cheyenne boy now in his possession, known by the name of Wilson Graham. You will retain him until an opportunity presents for the delivery of him to his nearest relatives. His mother is said to be living, and is said to belong to the Black Kettle band. When you deliver him to his relatives you will take a receipt for him. I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. G. MITCHELL,  
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

In a conversation which I had with Colonel Wynkoop on this subject, while I was at Fort Larned, I informed him that my instructions required me to deliver the boy to his nearest relatives, through the military authorities, and not through the Indian agents.

A copy of a letter from Colonel Leavenworth, United States Indian Agent for the Comanches and Kiowas to the Hon. N. G. Taylor, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated April 9, 1867, states that he (Colonel Leavenworth) was directed by instructions from the Indian Bureau, to proceed to St. Louis, to receive from Lieutenant-General Sherman, Wilson Graham, the Cheyenne boy in question, and to deliver him to Colonel Wynkoop at Fort Larned. Upon his arrival at St. Louis Lieutenant-General Sherman informed me that the child had been sent to me, with instructions to deliver him to the Cheyennes in the presence of the agent. These instructions would have been carried out while I was present at Fort Larned had the band of Cheyennes to which his relatives belonged (Black Kettle) been in that country at the time. It was reported to be in Texas, and I left the boy with the commanding officer at Fort Larned, with the instructions before referred to. Shortly after that time (April 15) the Cheyennes commenced the present war against us, which has thus far rendered the delivery of the child to his friends impracticable.

In the letter of Colonel Wynkoop, dated at my headquarters, on Pawnee Fork, April 18, 1867, addressed to the Hon. N. G. Taylor, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, he states that a courier had arrived in my camp from General Custer (then in pursuit of the Sioux and Cheyennes from Pawnee Fork), with the information that the Cheyennes had turned and gone toward the Arkansas River, while the Sioux had continued northward. He followed the Sioux trail, and the last discharge from him (General Custer) is to the effect that the Sioux, upon crossing the Smoky Hill road had destroyed a mail station at that time. It was reported to be in Texas, and I left the boy with the commanding officer at Fort Larned, with the instructions before referred to. Shortly after that time (April 15) the Cheyennes commenced the present war against us, which has thus far rendered the delivery of the child to his friends impracticable.

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There is no evidence in General Custer's report of the pursuit of the Sioux and Cheyennes from the village on the Pawnee Fork which would go to prove that they had separated or that the Cheyennes were not implicated in the killing and burning of the three men at Lookout Station, on the 15th of April, and burning of the station on the contrary, in General Custer's report to Brevet Major-General A. J. Smith, commanding District of the Upper Arkansas, of April 19, received after the destruction of the village and too late to be considered in that connection, in reference to the outrage at Lookout Station, on the Smoky Hill, he says expressly that, after a careful examination by himself and the Delaware scouts who were with him, it was found impracticable to discover the slightest clue as to what tribe had committed the act; but says in his report to General Smith, of the 17th of April (copy enclosed, marked D), that the outrages were certainly committed by the Indians who abandoned the village on Pawnee Fork. They were a portion of the same body of Indians, about eight hundred strong, who crossed the Smoky Hill road on the 16th of April, and reported themselves to be Sioux, Cheyennes and Pawnees. They were all stripped and painted for war at that time, and, in addition to the previous killing and burning at Lookout Station, they fired into Stormy Hollow Mail Station, and ran off stock from that point belonging to the mail company; threatened the mail station east of Stormy Hollow, and ran off stock belonging to the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern District, a few miles further north.

My official report of the operations of the expedition last Spring shows conclusively that I did not determine to destroy the Indian villages until I had learned officially of the outrage committed on the Smoky Hill by the Indians (Sioux and Cheyennes) who had treacherously left their camps on Pawnee Fork, on the 14th of April, or during the previous night.

In none of the reports which were received from General Custer of his pursuit of the Indians from Pawnee Fork was there any facts going to show that the Cheyennes had left the Sioux and gone South. All of the information contained in the dispatches of General Custer at that time was to the effect that the Indians from Pawnee Fork (Sioux and Cheyennes) remained together, with probably a few exceptional small bands, until they arrived at the Smoky Hill, when they committed the murders and depredations on the mail stations and then pursued their flight northward.

In reference to the statement of Colonel Wynkoop, that the village of the Cheyennes was distinct from that of the Sioux, I can only say that the villages stood upon the same ground, and I was unable after an inspection which I made in person to distinguish with any certainty the lodges of the Cheyennes from those of the Sioux; nor could any of the others who were with me say positively where the line of separation between the villages commenced, although it was understood that the Sioux were on the north side and the Cheyennes on the southern and eastern sides.

It is not seen on what grounds "the Indians became fully impressed with the belief that General Hancock had come for the purpose of murdering their women and children, as had been previously done at Sand Creek." (See same letter from Colonel Wynkoop to Hon. N. G. Taylor, of April 18, 1867.) Nothing which I said to the Sioux and Cheyenne Chiefs, whom I had met at Larned on the 12th of April, nor at the meeting near the villages on the 14th of that month, could have led the Indians to such a conclusion or have given them apprehensions of such murderous intentions on my part; for I had certainly assured them that my intentions were peaceful, and that I had only marched into their country for the purpose of having a conference with the different tribes, so that they might have a full and just understanding of the views and intentions of the military authorities in reference to their future conduct and their interference with the railways and other routes of travel, emigrants passing through that country, and the treatment of our frontier settlers.

Such were well known to Colonels Wynkoop and Leavenworth to be the objects of the expedition, and they constantly assured the Indians, when in my presence, that my intentions were peaceful, and it was not until after the hostilities on the Smoky Hill subsequent to their abandonment of the village on Pawnee Fork, which compelled me to destroy their village, that the assertions were made that the Indians had actually been forced into a war. (See Colonel Wynkoop's letter of April 21 to Hon. N. G. Taylor, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.)

White on this subject, it is proper to state that none knew better than Colonels Wynkoop and Leavenworth that I did not march to the Plains last Spring for the purpose of commencing a war with the Indians, for before my departure from Fort Larned I had written to each of them, informing them of my instructions and of the objects of the expedition, and stating that no Indians would be arrested or called to account by me for past outrages and depredations, unless upon the application of the agents themselves. In his letters of April 21st and 24th, the first from Fort Dodge, the latter from Fort Larned, Colonel Wynkoop again reiterates the statement that the village of the Cheyennes, on Pawnee Fork, was burned without provocation or any overt acts on the part of that tribe. Notwithstanding, he must surely have known when he was at Fort Dodge with me, from the reports which I had received from General Custer, the contents of which were made known to him, and these were the only possible sources of information at that time, that the Cheyennes generally had not gone south of the Arkansas when they descended the villages at Pawnee Fork, but had fled north of the Smoky Hill with the Sioux, and were parties with the latter to the murders and burning at Lookout Station, and the other outrages committed on the Smoky Hill about the same time. I consider the evidence as to the participation of the Cheyennes in the massacre of Lookout Station, and the depredations on the Smoky Hill, after they had

abandoned the village on Pawnee Fork, contained in General Custer's reports of his pursuits of the Cheyennes and Sioux, conclusive and beyond question, their conduct on that occasion being, in my opinion, only a continuation of the outrages which they had been previously committing against the whites in this department ever since I had assumed command of it in August, 1866.

To show the temper of the Cheyennes toward us, and the feelings of hostility which animated them before the expedition to the Plains last Spring, I enclose herewith the reports of former outrages perpetrated Summer and Fall, with evidence which it is considered fixes the guilt of these outrages upon that tribe beyond any question of doubt, viz.:

September 19, 1866.—A party of savages ran off fourteen horses and two mules; see copy of a report from Lieutenant Flood, Sixth U. S. Volunteers, enclosed, marked E1, also an endorsement on a report of Lieutenant Joseph Hale, dated November 10, 1866, enclosed, marked E2; also a copy of an affidavit of Mr. H. F. Wyatt, on the same subject, marked E3; copy of affidavit of Mr. Wm. Comstock, Government guide and interpreter at Fort Wallace, marked E4; and a copy of statement of John Smith, United States Indian interpreter, marked E5.

September 29, 1866.—Two employees of the Overland Mail Company murdered at Chalk Bluff mail station. As evidence showing that the murders were committed by the Cheyennes, I transmit copies of a letter from Mr. D. Street, Agent Overland Mail Company, marked F, dated October 23, 1866, of an affidavit from Mr. William Comstock, United States guide and interpreter at Fort Wallace, marked F1; of an affidavit of Mr. James Wadsworth, driver on Overland Mail line, marked F2; of a letter from Captain W. M. Koog, Seventh Cavalry, commanding post Fort Wallace, dated December 20, 1866, marked F3, with enclosure of a letter from Lieutenant James Hale, Third Infantry, dated December 19, 1866, marked F4.

October 12, 1866.—A band of Indians burned the mail station at Chalk Bluff. I invite attention to the following papers before referred to (enclosed herewith), fixing that outrage upon the Cheyennes.—Letter from Lieutenant J. Hale, Third Infantry, dated November 10, 1866, letter of October 3, 1866, from Mr. D. Street, Agent Overland Mail Company, and a letter from Lieutenant Hale, Third Infantry, dated December 19, 1866.

November 10, 1866.—An unprovoked murder of a New Mexican was committed at Fort Zara by a Cheyenne, Fox Tail, a son of Medicine Arrow, a prominent man of that tribe. (See on this subject the enclosed copy of a report from Second Lieutenant J. B. Thompson, Third Infantry, marked G.) That murder has never been denied by the Cheyennes.

I also enclose a copy of a statement (marked H), from Mr. John Smith, United States Indian Interpreter, dated July 14, 1867, in reference to the killing of six white men by the Cheyennes, in the month of June, 1866, on one of the tributaries of Solomon's Fork; and a copy of a letter, dated February 22, 1867, from Mr. F. H. Page, United States Agent for the Kansas Indians (marked I), stating that about the 1st day of January, 1867, a part of the Cheyennes attached to the Kawa Chief (Katahugah), captured forty-four horses and wounded one man. I have also on record at my headquarters the official report of various outrages and depredations committed before the present war by other tribes belonging to the agencies of Colonels Wynkoop and Leavenworth—Arapahoes, Kiowas, and Comanches—some of which the Indians themselves, when in council with me last Spring, acknowledged to have been justly charged to them. The reports in all such cases were promptly reported by me to the Indian Department as soon as they were received, and though I had constantly informed the Department through the agents that I was ready to assist them with the troops under my command in arresting the offenders. I have never in a single instance been called upon to render such assistance, and in all cases (even in that of the murder of the New Mexican, at Zara, when the name of the culprit was known), the guilty ones have been permitted to go unpunished.

Colonel Wynkoop's letter of April 21st, also contains the following: On my arrival there (Fort Dodge) on the 19th inst. (April) a party of Cheyennes (evidently runners from the North) had approached the Cimarron Crossing, and were discovered skulking around the bivouac of a detachment of the Seventh cavalry, which was at that point under command of Major Wadsworth, of that regiment. When the Indians were perceived they were endeavoring to steal up to some herdsmen, who were in charge of the cattle of the command; and it is supposed, they were not aware of the presence of the Indians. Major Wadsworth, of the Seventh cavalry, with twenty men, advanced and demand the surrender, which was done through the interpreter. In reply the Indians fired upon the troops. They were attacked and pursued across the river, and six of them, all that were seen, were killed. One of our men was wounded and one horse killed. I herewith transmit a copy of Colonel W. Cooper's report of the affair, marked K.

In concluding this letter it is proper for me to say again that before the expedition of last Spring set out I informed Agents Wynkoop and Leavenworth fully of its object, telling them that war was not intended against the Indians, and that it was my earnest desire to act through them in all matters connected with the tribes under their agencies. I also invited them to accompany me on my march from Fort Larned to Fort Dodge, so that they might be present at my interviews with the chiefs of the various tribes, and hear what I had to say to them during the time they were in my camp. They must have observed that all of my conferences were with a view of preserving peace on the Plains, and all of my actions friendly until the treachery of the Sioux and Cheyennes at Pawnee Fork, and the murders and depredations committed by them on the Smoky Hill route, after they ran away from their village, compelled me to take hostile measures against them.

It is worthy of remark, in this connection, that while in my command Colonel Leavenworth stated to me in conversation that the tribes of his agency had been greatly wronged by having been charged with various offences which had been committed by the Indians of Colonel Wynkoop's agency (Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and Apaches.) In the opinion of Colonel Leavenworth, as expressed to me, the Indians of Colonel Wynkoop's agency, especially the Cheyennes, deserved severe summary punishment for their numerous misdeeds, very many of which had been laid at the door of his innocent tribes (the Comanches and Kiowas). But Colonel Wynkoop informed me in conversation, about the same time, that the Arapahoes, Apaches, and especially the Cheyennes, were peacefully inclined, and rarely committed offences against the laws; but most unfortunately they were charged with crimes which had been committed by other tribes, and that in this respect they had suffered heavily from the Kiowas of Colonel Leavenworth's agency, who were of the most turbulent Indians on the Plains, and deserved punishment more than any others.

More recent events have shown that all the tribes above referred to (save, probably, a portion of the Comanches) including the Sioux, were determined upon a general outbreak this Summer, and that the abandonment of the village on Pawnee Fork and the murders committed immediately afterward on the Smoky Hill were but the commencement of a war which had been threatened to our post commanders on many occasions during the Winter, and which is now waged with savage fury on the part of the Indians throughout my command and the Department of the Platte and Dakotas.

In reference to the threats made last Winter by the Indians of war against us this Summer, I transmit herewith (marked L and L2) copies of two communications from Major H. Douglass, commanding post of Fort Dodge, which concern particularly the Kiowas and Arapahoes. One of them is addressed to the Assistant Adjutant-General Department of the Missouri; the other to the Acting Assistant Adjutant-General of the District of the Upper Arkansas. I also transmit a copy of a letter from Brevet Major Ashbury, Third Infantry, bearing on this subject (marked L3).

This reply to the statements of Colonel Wynkoop and Leavenworth, contained in the copy of their letters referred to me by order of General Grant, May 23d, would have been transmitted promptly after the date of their receipt but for the fact that since that time until the 15th inst. I have been constantly on the Plains, marching almost every day, which prevented me from giving my attention to the matter until the present moment.

Owing to the absence of Mr. John Smith, United States Indian Interpreter, I have withheld two of his affidavits, marked H, until his return, believing that an error was committed by him in giving the name of one of the bands of Indians at the time of writing them, which can then be corrected. They will then be transmitted for file with this communication. Herewith I return the originals of the papers referred to me by General Grant, May 23d, for my remarks.

I am, Major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINFIELD S. HANCOOK,  
Major-General United States Army, commanding.

## FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS.

The iron plates which are to form the gun shields on the new casemated works at Gibraltar, Malta and Bermuda, are five and five and a half inches thick, and weigh from four to five and a half tons each. One of these shields has been erected in the Royal Arsenal marsh at Woolwich, and is an object of considerable interest. It consists of a couple of five-and-a-half-inch plates laid on horizontally, and backed by the same number of five-inch plates laid vertically. They are secured by heavy conical-headed bolts, and an inner skin of one and a half inch, having an embasure in the centre, and supported by studs on the system of Lieutenant-Colonel INGLIS.

THE Standard says that the conversion of cast-iron smooth-bore guns into thoroughly efficient rifled artillery by Major PALLISER is an accomplished fact, and the immediate action of the authorities is now only a matter of funds. The number of cast-iron guns in the possession of Great Britain deemed at this moment useless, may be reckoned by tens of thousands, and these are distributed all over the globe. The change Major PALLISER makes in the piece is shown by the trial of a 32-pounder converted by the Elswick company by boring out and lining in the same calibre as before, namely, 6 3 inches, with a wrought-iron coiled tube. The service charge of the piece as a smooth-bore gun was eight pounds of powder and a 32-pound shot. At the trial of the altered gun seventy rounds were fired, fifty of these were with eight pounds of powder, and a 64-pound common shell, and twenty rounds with sixteen pounds of powder, and an 80-pound chilled shell. The range with ten degrees elevation was about 4,500 yards. The gun formed part of the Nelson's armament which carries twenty of these 64-pound PALLISER guns on her broadside, and two 7-inch PALLISER guns on pivots, on the main deck.

THE ARMSTRONG gun is to be tried in direct competition with KRUPP's steel cannon. A 7-inch ARMSTRONG is to be pitted against an 8-inch KRUPP. Twenty-four of the former guns are to be placed on board the *Don Juan*, *Kaiser Max* and *Prince Eugene*, while the *Habsburg* and *Erzherzog Ferdinand Max*, are to carry pieces from Essen.

THE Waterwitch has been beaten by the twin screw vessels *Viper* and *Vixen*, in the late trial. It is thought that by altering the disposition of the Waterwitch's machinery so as to draw in the water directly forward, and discharge it directly aft the new motor will beat the old. We call it "new" for the honor of discovery belongs more truly to the man who cares enough for his invention to start it fairly in the world, than to one who only sees its value without urging it upon the world. But the truth is the "hydraulic propeller" was publicly tried in 1793, and the principle is said to be much older.

THE English seem to be trying to prove themselves masters of the strongest gun-powder in the world. They put down the destructive effect of sixteen pounds of French powder as equivalent to six pounds of English powder, with the same weight of projectile to move. And the Italian powder can be no better than the French. For while six pounds of English powder has always knocked the British 32-pounder cast-iron guns to bits, the French have fired sixteen, and the Italians seventeen pounds of powder in the same sized gun, made at the same works. But if our British friends have blundered as badly in estimating their Italian and French as they have with their American rivals the figures they give are not worth much.

MESSRS. PETRIS, GAUDET & Co., the largest French manufacturers of heavy ordnance and armor plates, have from the first had great success in this important part of iron working. They furnished the armor for five of the floating batteries which contended with the Russian forts in the siege of Sebastopol. They began the manufacture of weldless tires for locomotive driving-wheels, and made them so well that more than half a million have been sold. When the progress of improvement in artillery made the French cast-iron cannon valueless, they proposed to cover the breech of the guns with a weldless steel band, made in the same way as their tires. They selected a steel which was very elastic, returning to its original diameter after being extended a fraction of an inch, and so nearly doubled the strength of the guns. The chief of the French Navy says, the hooping process is a success even when applied to pieces having a calibre of 9 1/4, 10 1/4, and 16 1/4 inches, the price per pound being less than sixteen cents. The establishment can hoop ten guns a day.

THE Tribune of last Monday says: Brigadier-General CHARLES P. STONE, in 1862, was arrested at midnight, placed in Fort Lafayette, removed from his command, charged with treasonable practices, kept without a trial, mustered out of his rank in the middle of the war, after a brilliant service in Louisiana, and, in fact, driven from the Army in disgrace. This is one of the mysteries of Mr. LINCOLN's Administration, and as Mr. STANTON gave the order for General STONE's arrest, now that he is out of office he may probably give the reason."

## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1867.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor of this JOURNAL will always be glad to receive from officers in the two services, correspondence and general communications of a character suited to its columns. It is necessary that the name of the writer should, in all cases, accompany his communications, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

All communications should be addressed to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, New York.

In directing a change in the address of a paper, care should be taken to give the previous address.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in United States funds, or Quartermaster's, Paymaster's or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype the paper, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion, in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

Officers are especially requested to give us early notification of all personal matters of general interest; of the movements of vessels and troops, and of all military and naval events.

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

EVERYBODY must have admired the aptness and expressiveness of most of the names which the English give to their vessels, their yachts, and their race-horses. It is rare that we in America ever make so good a selection, though the language is as open to us as to them. For our ships, we often either take some uncouth, unpronounceable and (to nine people out of ten) meaningless Indian name, like Pushmataha, or else some personal name, such as, say, Commodore Botts. For young race-horses we sometimes have no names at all, except that of somebody else's colt; for older ones we get names indicative of anything but beauty, fleetness, endurance, pedigree, or whatever be the quality symbolized. But there is surely quite as much sense in naming a fine racer George M. Patchen (a name impossible on the English turf) as in styling a fine clipper the J. Smith.

We do not, however, even stop at this abomination in our American naval nomenclature, but fasten on our vessels those utterly general and almost abstract names which are of all the least picturesque and appropriate—such as the President, the Constitution, and so forth. As for the Indian names, so much fun has been made of them that we need not at length refer to them. One trouble is, that our people do not understand their signification, and another that they do not know how to pronounce them. If everybody were aware that Winnipiseogee means the "Smile of the Great Spirit," it would always carry rich significance when borrowed for other things beside the beautiful New Hampshire lake on which the red men so tenderly fixed it. If, in addition, everybody knew that this name were not the ill-sounding one it looks to be, but is really pronounced Winnepeawkee, it would become doubly pleasing. But the trouble is with most Indian names that neither the sound nor the sense of them comes to popular apprehension. Hence, when applied to objects like war-ships, and so becoming, by degrees, familiar in the mouth as household words, they pass through all gradations of mispronunciation, and end by being nothing like what they originally were. The single example just selected will stand for the difficulties attendant upon many Indian names. And, in addition, some of our selections from the Indian vocabulary are as bad as possible. The Indian language, often guttural and discordant, should not by any means be supposed entirely made up of a "concourse of sweet sounds." And some men of Midas-ears have been able to light by chance on the most inharmonious of Indian appellations.

But to return to English ships. We were led to note this discrepancy between their naval nomenclature and ours, by comparing the list of the Royal Navy in commission with that of our own Navy in commission, as published lately in the JOURNAL. There is one point, however, regarding which we may at last have the laugh on our side. The era of armored vessels has rendered simply amusing some of the boastful names formerly borne, with great fitness, by magnificent three-tiered wooden ships. Of old, it was all very well for a stout ship of oak—oaken timbers around, and hearts of oak within—to proudly call herself the Impenetrable or Unconquerable, the Es-

hemoth or Rhinoceros. But the introduction of horizontal shell-firing makes the best of wooden vessels mere tinder-heaps, as the burning of the Turkish fleet at Sinope, the fate of the *Cumberland* and *Congress* in Hampton Roads, and the sinking of the *Alabama* in the English Channel, will testify. Again, the modern concentration of guns into powerful batteries of the fewest possible numbers and largest practicable size, makes those huge line-of-battle ships like the *Victoria* with her 120 guns, mere gun-cases, not floating defences.

Hence it happens, we say, that many of the English names, once so appropriate, are now simply ridiculous. And others, which might still do, at a pinch, by the exercise of charity, are very absurd when contrasted with the tremendous iron-clads of modern warfare. When we find a wooden ship called the *Impregnable*, which is kept in commission at Devonport only as a training-school for boys, the name seems odd enough. Then there is an *Irresistible*, powerless to resist a 100-pound shot, not to speak of a 450-pounder. There is a *Terrible*, a paddle-wheel ship—sure, therefore, of having its motive-power paralyzed by the first well-directed gun of its enemy; an *Achilles*, a modern screw-ship, vulnerable, unlike its namesake, in more points than its heel; a *Havock*, which is well enough if it denote not what havoc it would make, but what it would endure, by the plumping of a 15-inch shell between its sides. Then there is a *Formidable*, most unformidable to a Monitor half its size; a *Growler*, which, from its battery of two guns, will "roar you as gently as any sucking dove;" an *Alligator*, with hide and scales so tender that, to prevent exposure to hostile shot, it has been "lent to the Consular Department" at Whampoa.

Such are specimens of the way shells, and armor, and great guns work revolutions in the appropriateness of names. There is a *Waterwitch*, too, a "hydraulic gunboat" which we are not surprised to find set down as "unappropriated," and which, if called Waterbewitched, would express rather better the bedeviling process which this nondescript structure is put through. On the other hand, when we leave the question of impregnability and go to that of speed, the English war-vessels, wooden and all, thanks to their magnificent British-made machinery, are worthy of the titles which, like *Vivid*, *Racer*, *Rattler*, *Antelope*, and the like, many of them bear.

WE have already noted more than once the "irrepressible conflict" going on betwixt the Southern soldiers and Southern scribblers, the former of whom, as a class, espouse the scheme of reconstruction, as drawn up by Congress, quite as heartily as the latter oppose it. Exceptions to the general rule no doubt occur, but we may aver, in general, that the soldiers of the South countenance quiet yielding to the laws which Congress has imposed as conditions of restoration. A Savannah correspondent of the Hartford *Press*, who takes the very darkest view of the condition of Georgia, declaring that the "people have grown arrogant and insolent," are guilty of "base deception and dishonor," and will one day try again to "ruin a nation in which they take no interest, and a country which they deny to be their country"—this same writer, we say, is struck by the loyalty of the late Confederate soldiers. He declares, "My hopes of this people diminish day by day; they show very little evidence of a return to reason or honesty of purpose." But of the ex-soldiers he says that they are mainly "working strenuously for the restoration of the Union under the Congressional plan," and that they, "like sensible men who have been defeated, now do all they can to restore good feeling and the Union."

But what receptions do these true-hearted men find among their neighbors? Why, "the young orators of the white schools and colleges are fond of declaiming against the men who are working for reconstruction, styling them 'Southern traitors,' etc." And again this writer tells us that many of the Confederate soldiers "have forgotten all their old animosity, and, like true soldiers—the fight over and victory declared—are ready to make friends, while those who sympathized with the Rebellion, but were too cowardly to fight, are now the most bitter and violent, denouncing and threatening those whom they were afraid to meet in open arms."

General LEE, if we may credit the Greenbrier (Virginia) *Independent*, heads the "infamous" list of

"submissionists" whom these silly, beardless boys, would-be orators, and whiskeyfied editors join in attacking. The *Independent* declares it has trustworthy information that "whenever General LEE refers to the political condition of the country, he advises a submission, in good faith, to the result of the war—a strict obedience to the laws, and that everything which could be tortured even into an evidence of continued disloyalty should be avoided."

What will B. H. HILL, H. V. JOHNSON, PERRY, and such harum-scarum politicians as they, say of this "submission" of General LEE? Probably just what they have said of the similar spirit shown by Generals LONGSTREET, HINDMAN, JEFF. THOMPSON, PILLOW, and others, making it the occasion of insult and calumny.

It could not be expected that Northern soldiers should fare better than Southern in the hands of these immature statesmen of the so-called "Universities," and these bowie-and-whiskey editors of the Southern press. Hence we find the District Commanders exciting now the ire and now the satire of these wiseacres. The precious editors and precocious juveniles join forces in denouncing the garrisons and their commanders; but our officers share this fate in common with their late gallant opponents. This state of public opinion cannot always last. It is impossible that the South can always be led about to the ravings of excited boys, learning to speak and write, reinforced by a pack of distraught editors.

THE number of nobodies lifted now a-days into notoriety at Washington is quite remarkable. The explanation is an easy one. It requires, in order to support the "policy," a degree of commonplace in idea and platitude in expression which fall to the lot of but few. Hence if a man becomes illustrious by his logic or common sense, he may not find them availings when offered to aid the campaign now going on against District Commanders. BINCKLEY is now the representative man of the Administration, and his late fulmination against General SICKLES is a type of what takes at Washington. With regard to it, we may say briefly that it is utterly beneath contempt. It is too silly for refutation. Under a kind of rigmarole of legal forms and phrases, and a grave technology which is common to State documents, the most confusing stupidities are uttered. The author undoubtedly has no idea of what he is talking about, except only that he is to talk down General SICKLES. Hence the favor with which it has been received as an official utterance. BLACK pales before BINCKLEY as the mouth-piece of the anti-military plan of reconstruction. STANBERRY was slippery and contradictory enough in his chop-logic, but it was the cause, not the man, which was in fault, and it was a pleasure to expose his sophistry; but this unknown creature, who signs himself "Acting Attorney-General," is simply foolish. It is the worst piece of "acting" we ever heard of; but at least it covers the cause which is advocated with well-merited contempt.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston *Advertiser* gives a rapid sketch of the "coming man," BINCKLEY, which seems likely enough to be correct. He says:

The following is a brief record of this man whom the PRESIDENT has selected to do his work: Within ten years he has successively failed here as a portrait painter, the projector of a literary magazine, land-office clerk, land officer, attorney and defender of blockade-runners, doctor, clerk in law office, "local" on the *Chronicle*, editor of the *Intelligencer*, squatter on abandoned Rebel plantations in Virginia, editorial writer for a New York daily, the editor of which, on receiving his first articles, refused them and wrote to ascertain if the man was crazy. Last of all he turned up in Mr. STANBERRY's office and took his seat in the Cabinet on the day Mr. STANTON left.

What a change in the history of the Republic when such a man as this is entrusted with the charge of attacking illustrious Union generals! Oh, the times! oh, the manners! when our internal political theories, on which the action of the Nation is based, come from the BINCKLEYS and the BROWNING, and our foreign affairs are regulated by the McCRAKENS and McGINNISES! SEMMES, at Mobile, charges such brave and high-minded soldiers as ORD and SCHOFIELD with villainy and fraud, and BINCKLEY, at Washington, from the vantage-ground of the Cabinet, takes up the refrain against POPE, SICKLES, and SHERIDAN.

We desire our readers to understand that in publishing the proceeding of General Courts-martial in the

cases of officers, we do so because it is a distinct branch of Army news, and one which we have no right to neglect. It has happened several times that the officers tried have been our personal friends, but we did not feel warranted in allowing our individual feelings to influence us in the discharge of our journalistic duties. We are frequently in the receipt of letters requesting us not to publish the proceedings in the case of this or that officer, and are sorry not to be able to accede to the wishes of our correspondents. Our aim is to give our readers full information on all professional topics which are of interest to them, and to be independent of all private interests whatsoever.

LORD ELCHO's second speech in Parliament inclines us to give him higher credit for real insight into ordnance questions than his first speech seemed to entitle him to. We had at first supposed his advocacy of the big American smooth-bore was based on a desire to commence a general attack against the obvious deficiencies of the English guns, and that he seized on the American ordnance rather by way of a convenient handle, than because he really believed in them. It seems now, however, that his lordship has much faith in the American system, and at least he has given evidence of possessing a mechanical turn of mind sufficient to comprehend the subject. The London *Morning Herald* tells us that Sir JOHN PAKINGTON has "paid decided attention" to Lord ELCHO's practical remarks, and properly considers that a matter of congratulation. We fancy, however, that it was the deep voice of the 15-inch gun at Shoeburyness, rather than the utterance from the House of Commons that induced the War Minister to "pay attention." But the honorable member from Cashel is entitled to none the less credit.

The London *Herald* says that there is to be a trial of the American gun with 100 pounds of powder. We are very glad to hear of it. There is one important point to insist upon, and that is, that, for the sake of comparison, the gun should be placed at the same distance from the target as when it was fired with 50 pounds. Otherwise, of course, the result, so far as the public is concerned, will be deceptive. In other words, all the conditions of trial should be the same, except the increase of the charge in such a way as to give the required 1,500 feet velocity. Of course the gun could easily be removed to so great a distance as to render its impression upon the target no comparative test of its merits.

ADMIRAL SEMMES, of British channel celebrity, has found a mare's nest, and, presuming on his relations with the President, invites him to explore it. The nest is this: The Admiral discovers that the whites are in a majority throughout the five Districts, "and yet the registration returns indicate a black majority." He proceeds to charge "fraud" and "villany" upon distinguished soldiers who never had such charges made against them before. Condensed a little, here is the language in which this fine specimen of a paroled rebel indulges toward officers of unspotted integrity:

This fraud upon the white vote of the South has been perpetrated by the Military Commanders, aided and encouraged by the War Department. Should not the President remove the perpetrators of this fraud, and put honest men in their stead, who will execute the Reconstruction Acts in good faith? If the President considers himself bound to execute the obnoxious acts at all, it is clearly his duty to see that they are properly executed. The President needs no special proof to satisfy himself of the *grossness of the fraud* of which we have spoken. When he sees that in several of the States in which the white man is in a clear majority—Alabama, for instance—the negro registered vote is greater, by several thousand, than the white vote, the *proof of the villany* which has been practised will stare him in the face.

Very few words are required to expose the ignorance or the deception of this man. Congress, in providing the registration acts, took special pains, and very properly, to exclude from the privileges of voting, certain classes of persons who had been "engaged in rebellion." These classes were almost entirely confined to the whites, and could not fail, by their subtraction from the register lists, to bring the total of whites registered below that of the blacks. Yet, wilfully ignoring this fact, SEMMES deliberately and repeatedly ascribes the result to "fraud" and "villany" on the part of illustrious soldiers of our Army. In the case of two of the five, his prayer to the President for removing the District Commanders, has been answered; not, however, on his grounds.

Even were his case made out, this man SEMMES is

the last person fit to accuse others of "gross fraud" and "villany." In fine taste such language comes from one with his record; in finer taste still to be applied to the officers of that Army which granted the magnanimous capitulations of Appomattox and Greensboro. But when this reiterated charge is shown to be absolutely without the shadow of a foundation, the audacity of SEMMES becomes something startling. There is only one thing more sublime in its coolness which he ever perpetrated. This was to step from the deck of the *Alabama* into the chair of "moral philosophy" in a Louisiana college. We have no fear that our soldiers will suffer in reputation from the newspaper attacks of the high-toned hero who surreptitiously escaped, after pulling down his flag, to stop the fire of the *Kearsarge*.

THE Cable informs us that the British Foreign Office has issued a Blue Book containing the documents which have been filed in that department in the *Alabama* case, and the correspondence which has passed between the Government of Great Britain and the United States for the settlement of the claims.

The latest dispatch in the collection shows what progress has been made in the controversy, and states the condition upon which the English Government is willing to attempt a final settlement. The dispatch is addressed by Lord STANLEY, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, the British Minister at Washington, and is dated May 24, 1867. Lord STANLEY informs Sir FREDERICK BRUCE that England is willing to submit the claims of American citizens for damages caused by the *Alabama*, and all other similar demands on the part of the United States, to a Commission of Arbitration, if the claims of British subjects against the United States for losses suffered during the late War of Rebellion, are likewise submitted to the decision of the same Commission.

THE business of the Pension Office shows the whole number of claims received during the month of August, original and increase of widows, etc., 1,891; of invalids, 896; total, 2,787. The number of claims admitted, original and increase of widows, etc., 4,982; of invalids, 1,430; total, 6,412. The number of claims rejected, original and increase of widows, etc., 297; of invalids, 637; total, 914. The total number of claims disposed of during the month was 7,324; the number of letters written was 6,137; the number of circulars sent, 15,819. In the bounty land division 45 warrants of 160 acres each were issued; 8 of 80 acres. The whole number of warrants issued during the month was 60, covering 8,720 acres. The number of claims received, 54; under special acts, 69; renewal cases admitted, 265; rejected, 17.

THE Washington correspondent of the Boston *Advertiser* says:

Among the clerks in the Treasury Department is a man who is a brother of an ex-Rebel commodore, who, at the time of General EARLY's attack on this city, went through the lines to the Rebel headquarters, and informed General EARLY that the city was defended by militia only, and could easily be taken. For this act he was tried and sentenced to be hung. He was subsequently pardoned, and is now making up for lost time as a clerk in the Government employ.

MAJOR-GENERAL SHERIDAN on last Saturday received the order relieving him from command of the Fifth Military District. He was to leave New Orleans as soon as he had turned over his command to Brevet Major-General GRIFFIN. The Union men of New Orleans are circulating a petition urging Congress to restore General SHERIDAN to the command of the District.

PURSUANT to instructions from Headquarters Fifth Military District, Companies C, G, and H, First U. S. Infantry, now in New Orleans, have been ordered to proceed to Jackson Barracks, Louisiana, and report to the commanding officer for duty.

IT is stated that General HANCOCK has applied for leave to delay reporting at New Orleans for thirty days. His physician advised him to do this, as otherwise he would be apt to fall a victim to the yellow fever, which is now prevalent in that city.

THE President has relieved Dr. FRANCIS LIEBER from his position as Chief of the Bureau of Rebel Archives. Dr. LIEBER's well-known loyalty doubtless prompted the order, as his high attainments admirably fitted him for the position.

FIRST Lieutenant JOEL T. KIRKMAN, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, died at Galveston, Texas, a few days since.

## ARMY PERSONAL.

ASSISTANT Surgeon E. A. Körper, U. S. A., has been assigned to duty, temporarily, at Jackson Barracks.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days has been granted Second Lieutenant William Holck, Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry.

First Lieutenant John McDonald, First U. S. Cavalry, has been ordered before the Retiring Board in session at San Francisco.

FIRST Lieutenant H. J. Farnsworth, Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, has been assigned to duty with Brevet Brigadier-General Rufus Saxton, Chief Quartermaster Third Military District.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the Fifth Military District, has been granted Chaplain John C. Jacob, Ninth U. S. Cavalry.

BREVET Colonel W. B. Royall, Major Fifth Cavalry, has been relieved from the duties of Chief of the Bureau of Civil Affairs, Second Military District, and assigned to the command of the Military post of Morganton, N. C.

BREVET Major Morris J. Asch, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army, has been relieved from further duty as a member of the Military Commission instituted in Special Orders No. 70, current series, from Headquarters Fifth Military District.

SECOND Lieutenant John S. M. Ewan, Fourth U. S. Artillery, has passed a satisfactory examination before the Artillery Examining Board now in session in Washington, and of which Brevet Brigadier-General J. Roberts, U. S. A., is President.

BREVET Brigadier-General John M. Cuyler, Surgeon U. S. A., and Medical Director of the Department of the East, has been ordered to inspect the hospitals at the several stations in that command, reporting as directed in the special instructions furnished him.

In addition to his present duties, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Sheldon Sturgeon, Captain First U. S. Infantry, has been ordered to supervise the Registration Board, recently in charge of Brevet Colonel A. D. Nelson, consisting of the parishes of St. Charles, Jefferson, Plaquemine and St. Bernard, La.

CAPTAIN D. W. Porter, Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Army, having reported at Headquarters District of Texas, in obedience to Special Orders No. 111, Headquarters Fifth Military District, has been ordered to report in person to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. C. Lee, Assistant Quartermaster at San Antonio, Texas.

BREVET Colonel Maurice Maloney, Lieutenant-Colonel Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, has been relieved from further duty as a member of the Military Commission instituted in Special Orders No. 70, current series, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, and Brevet Colonel A. D. Nelson, Major First U. S. Infantry, detailed as a member of said Commission.

In addition to the duties now performed by Major Lyman Bissell, Twenty-ninth Infantry, he is announced by Major-General Sickles as a Field Officers' Court, with authority—in compliance with General Orders No. 91, War Department, A. G. O., July 29, 1862—to try such cases in Companies B and G, Twenty-ninth Infantry, as may be brought before a Field Officers' Court.

THE following is a list of officers who have reported at Headquarters Fifth Military District during the week ending August 24, 1867: Second Lieutenant T. W. Wing, Fourth Cavalry, report to regiment, Camp Verde, Texas; Second Lieutenant D. H. Cortelyou, Ninth Cavalry, orders from War Department; Captain D. M. Sells, Forty-first Infantry, Special Orders No. 55, Regimental Headquarters.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Montgomery, Ala., on the 26th day of August, 1867, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Private William Miles, Company G, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, and such other prisoners as may be brought before it. Detail for the Court: Major E. W. Crittenden, Fifth U. S. Cavalry; Captain Alfred Hedberg, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Joseph L. Tull, Thirty-third U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant P. H. Ray, Thirty-third U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Robert E. Bradford, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant George W. Ballantine, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, Judge Advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial has been appointed to meet at Fort Lyon, C. T., on Thursday, September 12, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such persons as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the Court: Captain E. B. Kirk, Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Army; Captain James Thompson, Thirty-seventh U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant E. A. Belger, Third U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant John Pulford, Thirty-seventh U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant Matthew Berry, Seventh U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant J. W. Thomas, Third U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant John W. Hannay, Third U. S. Infantry; Judge Advocate, Brevet Major H. R. Tilton, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army.

THE following alterations have taken place at Fort Columbus, New York, during the week ending September 3d, viz.: Brevet Captain James E. Wilson, First Lieutenant Second Artillery, relieved from duty at Governor's Island, and ordered on recruiting duty at Washington, D. C., per instructions from Headquarters General Recruiting Service, New York City. The following detachments of recruits left depot, per instructions from Headquarters General Recruiting Service, New York City, viz.: Forty-seven men to Third Artillery, Fort Adams, R. I., under the command of Brevet Major W. C. Cuyler, First Lieutenant Third Artillery; forty-seven men to Third Artillery, viz.: twenty to Fort Independence, B. H., eleven to Fort Warren, B. H., sixteen to Fort Sullivan, Maine, under the command of Brevet Captain T. L. Alston, First Lieutenant Twenty-first Infantry; forty-eight men to Third Artillery, viz.: twenty-eight to Fort Constitution, N. Y. H., twenty to Fort Preble, Maine, under the command of Brevet Major W. M. Quimby, U. S. A.

## TWENTY-THIRD U. S. INFANTRY.

THE following is a roster of the officers of the Twenty-third U. S. Infantry, August 1st. The Headquarters of the regiment are at Fort Boise, Idaho Territory:

Colonel Jefferson C. Davis (Brevet Major-General), en route to join regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Crook (Brevet Major-General), in the field, commanding regiment and District of Owyhee.

Major Louis H. Marshall (Brevet Colonel), Fort Dallas, Oregon, unknown.

Adjutant Azor H. Nickerson (First Lieutenant), Fort Boise, Idaho Territory, present.

Quartermaster Richard I. Eskridge (First Lieutenant), in the field, Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Assistant Commissary Subsistence District of Owyhee.

Captains—Samuel Ross (Brevet Colonel), Company F, Columbus, Ohio, recruiting service; Henry De B. Clay, Company D, en route to join his company; John J. Copping (Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel), Company A, Camp Three Forks, Owyhee, I. T., commanding company and post; George K. Brady (Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel), Company E, Camp Three Forks, Owyhee, I. T., commanding company; John H. Walker (Brevet Major), Company C, Camp C. F. Smith, commanding company and post; James B. Sinclair (Brevet Colonel), Company H, Fort Boise, I. T., commanding company and post; James Henton, Company B, Camp Warner, Oregon, commanding company; Joseph T. Haskell, Company K, Fort Vancouver, W. T., Acting Chief Commissary of Subsistence Department of Columbia; Seth Weldy, Company I, Baker City, Oregon, commanding company and post; George L. Browning, Company G, en route to join his company.

First Lieutenants—Amandus C. Kistler, Company F, Camp Watson, Oregon, commanding company; Otis W. Pollock, Company I, Baker City, Oregon, Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Assistant Commissary of Subsistence; Lafayette Hammond, Company A, en route to join his company; Greenleaf A. Goodale, Company K, Camp Wright, Oregon, commanding company and post; Joseph L. Jack, Company B, Camp Warner, Oregon, Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Assistant Commissary Subsistence; John R. Echenburg, Company D, en route to join his company; Louis R. Stille, Company E, en route to join his company; William C. Manning, Company G, Fort Colville, W. T., commanding company and post; Charles Bird, Company H, Camp Watson, Oregon, detached service with Company F, Twenty-third Infantry; Walter J. McClymonds, Company C, unknown, not yet reported.

Second Lieutenants—John W. Lewis, Company A, en route to join his company; George McTaylor, Company E, Camp Three Forks, Owyhee, I. T., Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Assistant Commissary of Subsistence; Thomas Barker, Company H, Fort Boise, I. T., Post Adjutant; William F. Rice, Company K, Camp Wright, Oregon, present; Thaddeus Roberts, Company C, Camp C. F. Smith, Oregon, Acting Assistant Quartermaster and Acting Commissary of Subsistence; Henry Bacon, Company D, en route to join his company; T. M. Fisher, en route to join regiment, not yet assigned to a company; William F. Houston, unknown, not yet reported; John P. Peterson, unknown, not yet reported; Frederick L. Dodge, en route to join regiment, not yet assigned to a company.

## PRUSSIA AND ITALY.

THE fortifications around Coblenz are tremendous, making our own vast efforts during the Rebellion, near Washington and Richmond, look trifling in comparison. The castle of Ehrenbreitstein, seated on an inaccessible rocky mountain, and overlooking the town and valley, is the chief of these ramparts, and is more than 800 years old. It is in perfect repair, and I found it filled with troops, and armed to the outer wall. It has cost the Prussian government over five millions of dollars, and can accommodate 100,000 men. It stands 400 feet above the level of the Rhine, and is defended by 400 cannon. As I stood on the topmost battlement, the guide pointed out several other immense fortifications, in the same range, of recent construction, and everywhere I noticed troops drilling, and heard the sound of drums and trumpets. Not only were the soldiers being trained in squads, but by the single man, and there was as much activity as if the hostile tri-color had already appeared on the not-distant French frontier. Cologne, the chief city of the Rhine, has five heavy fortifications, now occupied by over 40,000 of the finest veterans in the Prussian army. Never before has the military organization of Prussia been so perfect. Every young man of eighteen is immediately put into the army, where he serves for three of the best years of his life. This, out of a population of twenty millions, keeps on a constant war footing one of the largest armies in the world; although it takes from the fields and workshops an immense number of valuable men, and compels the degradation of women to the hardest toil. There is no distinction in this conscription—it reaches peer and peasant; and the troops I saw, many of them very young fellows, were veterans already, having fought in the last year's war with great distinction, and showing their medals and badges with enthusiastic pride. The inspiration that strengthens the king and fills the army with contented soldiers is, that Germany must be united into one nation, like England, France and the United States. The same sentiment will force the speedy consolidation of Italy. The frightful atrocities of the brigands, even up to the gates of Rome, and the stubborn refusal of the Pope to yield to the passionate cry of the Catholics of Italy, added to financial complications without end, will hasten this last event; and I look for it so confidently that I will not be astonished if it is precipitated before the end of the summer. The liberals of Germany, like those of Italy, are not satisfied with the rule of their king; but they accept William as their leader in one case, and Victor Emmanuel in the other, because these men represent the brotherhood and consolidation of two great empires.—Correspondence *Washington Chronicle*.

## ASCENT OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.

NEAPOLITAN GUIDES—THE ASCENT AND DESCENT.

MARTIGNY, SWITZERLAND, July 1867.

DEAR CHARLIE: Climbing the hills for the last three days has served to remind me, that among the things about which I have omitted to write you in the hurry of travel was my ascent of Mount Vesuvius. And though there is nothing in this quiet place calculated to recall Southern Italy or its scenery, yet it is such a dreamy, queer old town that one insensibly falls into retrospective vein, and involuntarily contrasts the green fields on the mountain sides, and the lovely valley seen from the window, with the parched slopes and dusty roads that surrounded the Bay of Naples. Let me go back, then, a little in my journeys and tell you how we went up to see the crater of Vesuvius. It will be a fitting preface to the little I have to say of my recent pleasant trip to Chamouni.

It was at midnight that we were awakened from a sound sleep in the Hotel de Russie at Naples, to take the carriages that were to convey us to the point on the outskirts of the city where we were to find animals, with which to make the rest of the journey to the base of the mountain. The party consisted of nine, all Americans, and included three ladies, who had not been deterred from attempting the excursion by the most discouraging accounts of the fatigue and difficulties that attended it. The arrangements for the carriages, guides and horses had been left to the genius of one of the party, a young gentleman, who had been engaged in blockade-running during the Rebellion, and whom a year of residence in Italy had qualified to deal with the guides of Naples. In about an hour we arrived at the stable where the saddle horses were kept, and there spent half an hour in chaffering for nine horses and three guides to take us to the mountain.

Now, the Neapolitan guide is a character that deserves at least a brief remark, for he is as much of a curiosity in his way as any object of interest that he can show you. He is slightly built, spare of flesh, brown featured, and is all rags, dirt and activity. In this connection, no allusion is meant to fleas, which are intimately associated with every novelty the traveller enjoys in Naples. This man, half guide, half brigand and all beggar, is positively radiant with smiles at his own impudence and independence of truth, of which last he is as destitute as he is generally of shoes and stockings. When not shouting along the roads, or pleading for *sous*, he is basking, stretched out at full length, a l'Africain along the sunny side of the street, particularly in the forenoon, with his hat over his eyes, and oblivious of the passing throng or the coming wants of the morrow. I imagine that he does all his sleeping in the day time, and spends the hours of darkness with the noisy fishermen, who from the going down of the sun until the rising thereof, make the quay of Naples resound with their hideous cries. Suppose you need his services, which in some given instance may be really worth five francs. You ask him how much he will charge. He is alive to the situation in a moment, and answers "ten francs." Just to hear him yell, offer him four francs. He will scream and groan, for all the world as if you were holding him on the prong of a pitchfork. Gesticulating violently, and with an expression of countenance as though he saw the embodiment of famine approaching over your left shoulder, he will shriek out "eight francs," and swear by the Virgin that he won't take a *sous* less, emphasizing his declaration by a tragic attitude, that leaves him at the end of his remarks with hands outstretched in the air, hair flying in the breeze, and his features settling into an expression of fierce determination. You mildly suggest three francs, and turn away as if to procure another guide. His agony and gestures now increase. He gets quite close, almost clutches you and grows angry and plaintive by turns, talks of hunger, and not having eaten anything for days, and pours out a stream of Italian in which you catch the words "tarifa" and "pour boire," and those mean that he will serve you for the tariff rate of five francs, and as many *sous* as you choose to give him with which to drink your health. The bargain closed, and you must be very exact in your stipulations, he becomes quite amiable until the time of settlement comes, when to your astonishment he demands very gravely from three to five, perhaps ten francs, more than the agreement calls for from you. There has been a shawl carried, a bouquet of flowers gathered, or you have been gone an hour longer than you intended, or perhaps it has rained and his jacket got wet; anything for an excuse. If all that kind of argument proves unavailing he appeals to your sympathy and sinks into the mendicant, talks of a starving family, and, stroking his stomach with both hands and craning his neck, looks the very picture of want. Talk about a Frenchman making gestures; a Neapolitan will give him fifty odds on a hundred, and beat him at the game of elocution in a minute and a half. You move away after giving him the five francs, and ten *sous* for "drink money." He follows, you go faster, and he runs backward before you shouting at the top of his voice "deux francs, deux francs," and attracting the attention of every passer by in the street, until perhaps, a friendly policeman relieves you of the annoyance. But you must not look back to see whether he has gone, for he will stretch out both hands, give a frantic jump toward you, and again shriek out "deux francs, deux francs!" This is the Neapolitan guide or "Guit," as they call him in Naples.

At length, with the usual amount of noise, the bargain was concluded and our party mounted. Two guides preceded us, and one brought up the rear, the three bearing torches, and accompanied by a small crowd of men and boys who had volunteered, with the hope of picking up some odd *bojaccio* for carrying a carpet-sack or umbrella. We turned into a narrow crooked street that lay over the buried city of Herculaneum, and wound among houses, whose tenants were roused by the clatter of our horses' feet, and the wild cries of our noisy companions. It was a strange and picturesque scene that the glare of the torches lit up, and looked more like a midnight marauding group of feudal soldiers leaving a sacked town, than a party of peaceful travellers, bent for the summit of Vesuvius to see the sun rise. In single file and keeping as close together as possible, we followed on until the rising ground and Roman pavement of an ancient roadway told us that we had left the city and were among the vineyards. The road lay in

successive terraces between ruined garden walls for a time, and then branched off into a mere bridle path that led over the rocks and up the slope of the mountain. It was just the gray of dawn when we found ourselves among the gloomy fields of scoria left by older eruptions of the volcano. Our progress then became slow, but the horses were sure-footed and carried us safely over the rocks. We could see some of the party far ahead winding to the right and left, down a hollow or up a rough dark spur with the guides and boys clinging to their horses' tails and swinging along behind them. The lava lay in long, corrugated, black fields that, separated by ridges of rock, were plainly marked with ripples and wave-like indentations. Nothing could convey a clearer idea of the force and singular character of an eruption than this preservation of the appearance of motion, presented by these rivers of melted rock that, pouring down the mountain, seemed to have been arrested while rolling in billows of fire and congealed in an instant. I believe that it is an established fact that much time is required to cool a stream of lava, and one would thus naturally suppose that in cooling it would settle by the force of its own weight into some sort of a level. There is, however, little or no appearance of this settling, but on the contrary the position and shape of the ripples and waves impart an idea of instantaneous congelation while in the very act of surging down the valleys. The surface of the lava had been broken at different points by explosions of greater or less magnitude, and the ragged edges of the holes pointed upward into the air, not rough and splintered like rock, but torn, jagged and ribbon-like, as a mass of sheet lead or iron would be by the explosion of a mine within it. Our course lay along one of these streams, and occasionally over an old road that had been partially destroyed by its flow. This road rose to the top of a very high ridge that ran between two valleys blackened with lava, and ended at an observatory; a large brick building erected by the Italian Government for the purpose of taking and preserving observations of the phenomena peculiar to Vesuvius. After passing this point, the only sign of vegetation visible near our route was an occasional straggling and sickly weed growing in the crevices of the rocky paths. The whole surface of this broken country, not covered by the streams of lava, rose up between them in bare, rocky ridges where no soil could cling. Dark and bleak, full of yawning chasms hidden by low ragged peaks, and unrelieved by man's habitation, grazing cattle nor browsing sheep, the scene through which we moved was desolate in the extreme. This volcano-blasted country impressed us with a sadness that even the grandeur of the torn mountains could not dissipate. The clouds, too, that hung heavily above us increased the funereal aspect of the picture, for they wrapped within their folds this wrecked part of earth, and with the morning mists shut out the view of the bay and silver-lined shore, that we knew lay below them. Almost in silence we pursued the rest of our way over the rocks and lava, the guides leading the ladies' horses, and the gentlemen trusting to the sagacity and feet of their animals. Our progress was slow, nor did we arrive at the place for dismounting until five o'clock. The remainder of the ascent, being too steep for the mules, was to be made on foot. Before us the mountain rose in a truncated cone, whose surface, inclined almost to forty-five degrees, was covered on the left with ashes, and on the right with rocks, that, thrown from the volcano, had rolled down and lodged against others below; forming a steep, rugged kind of wall up which we were to scramble for an hour in a direct line to the top. It was not a difficult nor a dangerousfeat if care was taken not to dislodge the rocks; but the fatigue was constant, nor was there a single place in the whole ascent where one could walk upright like an ordinary mortal.

It was at this point that the Neapolitan guides exhibited another characteristic of the tribe. In starting they had said nothing about the necessity of having sticks to assist us in climbing, and now they produced several small poles and offered them to us for two or three francs apiece. After the necessary chaffering and consequent wild cries we secured the use of them for a dime a head and then commenced the ascent. It was quite a race for the first fifty yards through the ashes and loose rocks at the foot of the declivity, but in ten minutes the enthusiasm died out and we were glad to rest. A friend had told us of a trick of these monkey guides, and put us on our guard against the extortion. The guide offers to assist you the moment he observes you are fatigued, and very naturally you take hold of a ring of rope he holds out to you. For a few minutes he goes quietly enough, but gradually increasing his pace, in a few minutes he has nearly pulled the breath out of your body. It is vain to resist. He does "not talk French," and deprived of the little strength the ride left, you are fain to be carried. The pulling up was five francs, the carrying ten more. But the last end is worse than the first, for "pick-a-back" riding, though very pleasant in school days is quite another thing on Vesuvius, and in ten minutes you are so hopelessly worn out that you accept the offer of a chair; shell out twenty francs more and are carted up between two lively and bare-legged but joyous guides. The three ladies and I with a school-teacher from the Hudson refused all offers of assistance, and taking the thing very leisurely were soon distanced by our companions whom we saw making rapid progress about us. One gentleman from Baltimore, bound from Washington to Rome with dispatches, and taking Naples in his route, was particularly enthusiastic. He had been complaining of gout ever since we left the city, said he had never ridden horseback before, which I readily believed, and yet was hanging on one of the guide's rings, and skipping over the rocks like a young goat. He was the object of my especial envy. I watched his coat-tails with interest, saw his red-bandanna-covered head bobbing above, and heard his exulting laugh echoed back with mortification. Then I turned to the tired ladies, helped them on another fifteen steps, halted again to rest and draw a fresh breath, and looked upward. Where was the red bandanna now, and where the waving coat-tails? Would you believe it? Baltimore had flung his arms affectionately around the neck of his Neapolitan friend, the red bandanna was mingled with the dark locks of the Italian, and the two, like *Aeneas*, and what's-his-name! were toiling painfully upward. A few more encouraging words to the ladies, another fifteen steps and another halt to rest, and I again looked for my infatuated patriot bound

for Rome. This time his face was reversed. He was taking a "rear view," and seated in a chair, reckless of his vanished frances, was holding the red bandanna to his eyes or wiping the perspiration from his forehead, at that distance I could not tell which, I was satisfied, nay, exhilarated, nor did I feel any fatigue after the last sight of Baltimore's dangling feet disappearing over the rocks above me. Anybody can be carried up Vesuvius.

But I pitied the ladies and regretted a hundred times that I had not dissuaded them from the undertaking. Keeping my regrets to myself, however, I expressed the admiration I really felt for their courage and endurance. Pale, exhausted, and compelled to frequent rests, they looked upward with despair. I told them not to look above, but below, for there the horses we had left were now the merest specks in the distance, and then a glance upward assured us that we were more than half way up. Encouraged and refreshed, they again started, and this time gained a considerable height. But it was hard work and told fearfully on their delicate frames. One lady from New York particularly awoke my sympathy. A picture of despair, she sat on a rock meditating on the ridiculousness of having started at all on such a trip, and, with the cold perspiration on her forehead, seemed almost ready to cry with fatigue and vexation. A drop of wine revived her, and a shout from the thin pedagogue, who had gained the summit, started her again to her feet. She did very well that time, nor did she stop until the fifty yards that intervened between her and the schoolmaster were passed, and she stood erect beside me on the top of Vesuvius. The clouds shrouding the volcano and mountains shut out the sun and prevented our seeing it rise, so that the principal object of our early start was defeated; but we suffered less from heat than we would have done had the sky been clearer. Before us lay irregular valleys and great masses of upheaved rock dotted with fragments of crude sulphur of mingled red and yellow colors, while the rocks and lava were mostly of a deep black and gray.

If the ascent was difficult, the journey across this horrible place seemed impossible. Sudden depressions in the crust over which we must go showed that a sinking of the surface might possibly occur at any moment; nor was it possible to see, among these terrible crags and crevices, a path which we could pursue. And the guides now fiercely demanded five francs from each of us to "see the crater." We had made an arrangement before starting that, in case of a row, Federal, Confederate, schoolmaster, politician, and botanist were all to form a hollow square together and "sail in." One of us gave the signal, and, with a wave of his baton, made for the noisiest of the crew. No blows were struck, for the fellow broke away down a path toward the crater, and we followed after him.

I do not propose to tell you how the top of Mount Vesuvius looked. The fact is, so horrid and dismal was the place, so apparently treacherous the crust on which we stood, that the only interest I took in the proceedings was to get away as soon as possible. The hot smoke and steam issued from a number of places, and the crust was quite warm under our feet. I had not at that time become so familiar with these phenomena as I have since, and I am frank to confess that, if not a little bit scared, I thought with regret of sundry small things in my life that might as well not have been done. Standing on a mere shell of rock, with the sulphur smoke near your feet pouring through the crevices that seem ready to yawn for your reception, is very suggestive, and more convincing as a theological argument than a cord of sermons drawn out into platitudes and falling in measured cadence on our careless ears, as we sit within the sacred precincts of a safely-built church at home. I once asked my old friend, S—, who was thirty-one last Summer, whether it was not "early piety" that had made his head so bald. "Well, no; I think not," he replied. "I have always believed that it came from carrying Sunday-school books in my hat when I was a boy." I thought of that answer when I looked timidly down the crater, and, feeling the noisome hot air puff against my cheek, almost wished that S— had been in earnest, and that my own hair was not quite as luxuriant, but slightly abraded from a similar cause.

It may be hard work to go up Vesuvius, and one may chance to fail in getting a fine view from its summit, as we did; but the fun of coming down is worth all the trouble and fatigue. I have seen a lithograph of the ascent and descent, which I always thought a caricature until I had been there; but it is true to the life. We stood a moment on the edge of the declivity, wondering whether we ever could descend these rocks; but a long-legged guide motioned us to the right, and, pointing out the slope of ashes that was distinctly separated from the rocks, jumped down about ten feet, was buried to his knees, and then, by a series of leaps, was soon far down the mountain. I looked at the New York lady. A gleam of comprehension and determination lit up her features. Gone were the traces of fatigue, and the expression of dejection. A smile of conscious superiority, as she glanced at our slightly-built figures, told us that she knew the value of weight in cases of descent like this one. She adjusted her waterproof hood and cloak, took a reef in her skirts, cleared for action, gathered her dress in one hand, and waving the other in the most patronizing manner, took the plunge. A moment's pause; the right foot went out; then the left, and in an instant, with waterproof fluttering like a signal for a charge, she went down the slope, behind her a dense, comet-like cloud of dust and ashes, of which she was the swiftly-sailing nebula, floated slowly to the right, with its tail resting nearly a mile to leeward among the gorges. Still she went swiftly on, plowing up the ashes, apparently without moving a limb, and so rapidly, too, that I more than once thought she had lost her footing, and was rolling down the mountain. The guides below looked upward in wonder, and we leaped into the ashes, and sat there watching her descent. The wind blew the cloud partly back, and hid her from sight; but when the dust drifted away again, our friend sat quietly on a rock, almost at the base of the slope, calmly awaiting our arrival. It had taken her an hour and twelve minutes to go up, and I am very sure less than five minutes to go down.

Collecting the party, we sat there, all gray with ashes

and dust, and partook of an *al fresco* breakfast; then, mounting our horses, rode in the hot sun back to the stables where we had left our carriages. A ride through the long streets of Naples, skirting the shore of its beautiful bay, brought us at last to the hotel at two in the afternoon.

Such was my experience of Vesuvius, where I wish never to go again, and I find that in telling it I have already taken up too much space, so that I must postpone until my next the recital of my journey up to Chamouni.

REGULAR.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

#### ORDERED.

AUGUST 26.—Paymaster Joseph A. Smith, to the receiving ship *Ohio*, by the 30th of September next.

Paymaster Thomas F. Caswell, to duty at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., by the 30th of September next.

Paymaster William H. Anderson, to the school ship *Constitution*, Annapolis, Md., by the 30th of September next.

AUGUST 29.—Assistant Paymaster John F. Tarbell, to the *Marblehead*.

AUGUST 30.—Paymaster Charles W. Hazzler, to temporary duty connected with the purchase of flour, etc., and temporarily to assume the duties of Purchasing Paymaster at New York on the 2d proximo.

#### DETACHED.

AUGUST 26.—Paymaster Richard Washington, from the Navy-yards Norfolk, Va., on the 30th of September next, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Paymaster McKeon Buchanan, from the receiving ship *Ohio* on the 30th of September next, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Passed Assistant Paymaster R. B. Rodney, from the school ship *Constitution*, on the 30th of September next, and ordered to settle his accounts.

AUGUST 27.—Lieutenant-Commander O. F. Stanton, from the command of the *Tahoma* on the 21st inst., and granted leave of absence for three months.

AUGUST 29.—Lieutenant-Commander R. K. Duer, from the *Cananagua* from the 31st inst., and placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Paymaster A. W. Bacon, from the *Marblehead*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

AUGUST 30.—Commander Charles Steedman, from the command of the *Colorado*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander George Dewey, H. B. Robeson, W. T. Sampson, O. A. Batcheller, Lieutenants Charles H. Craven, Charles H. Pendleton, Masters Charles F. Schmitz, George W. Armentrout, Surgeons James McClelland, John P. Quinn, Passed Assistant Surgeon E. C. Ver Meulen, Chief Engineer B. F. Garvin, First Assistant Engineers George D. Evans, Henry Brown, Second Assistant Engineers H. M. Quig, Guy Samson, M. A. Sutherland, F. W. Bassett, Chaplain Charles R. Hale, Boatswain John K. Bartlett, Gunner John Webber, Carpenter Joseph G. Thomas, and Salimaker Nicholas Lynch, from the *Colorado*, and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster John S. Cunningham, from the *Colorado*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Commander Oscar C. Badger, from the command of the *Pearl*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander L. P. Adams, Passed Assistant Surgeon C. H. Gibson, First Assistant Engineer John Purdy, Second Assistant Engineers R. L. Webb, C. F. Philippi and J. W. Gardner, from the *Pearl*, and placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Paymaster H. T. Wright, from the *Pearl*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Commander W. W. Low, from ordnance duty at Pittsburg, Pa., and granted two months' leave.

Commander John H. Upsher, from the command of the *Frolic* on the 14th ult., and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster G. F. Cutler, from duty connected with the purchase of flour, etc., and as Purchasing Paymaster at New York, on the 2d prox., and directed to hold himself in readiness for orders to the *Picataqua*.

Second Assistant Engineer Hillary Messimer, from the *Colorado*, and ordered to examination for promotion at Philadelphia.

AUGUST 31.—Chief Engineer F. C. Dade, from the *Cananagua* on the 15th ult., and placed on waiting orders.

Chief Engineer Thos. Williamson, from special duty connected with the *Richmond*, and placed on waiting orders.

#### ORDER REVOKED.

AUGUST 31.—The order of Third Assistant Engineer Thomas W. Fitch to the *Pearl*, and he is placed on waiting orders.

### VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

#### ORDERED.

AUGUST 31.—Acting First Assistant Engineer David Frazier, to the *Marblehead*.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer S. K. Coster, and Acting Third Assistant Engineer O. H. Pennington, to the *Marblehead*.

#### DETACHED.

AUGUST 26.—Acting Ensign T. W. Kimball, from the *Saginaw*, and placed on leave for discharge.

Mate R. J. Sperry, from the *Ascutney*, and ordered to the *Pearl*.

AUGUST 28.—Acting Ensign F. G. K. Lennan, from the *Massachusetts*, and placed on leave for discharge.

AUGUST 29.—Mate C. R. Marple, from the *Shawmut*, and ordered to the *Pearl*.

Mate Peter O'Connor, from the *Shawmut*, and ordered to the *Vermont*.

AUGUST 30.—Acting Master M. V. B. Haines, Acting Ensigns A. D. Campbell, George W. Beverly, Mates R. J. Sperry, John C. Howard and Tunis D. Wendell, from the *Pearl*, and placed on waiting orders.

Acting Master Rudolph Sommers, from the *Pearl*, and ordered to the *Marblehead*.

Acting Ensign Charles K. Fleming, from the *Pearl*, and ordered to the *Massachusetts*.

Acting Ensign R. B. Elder, from the *Marblehead*, and placed on waiting orders.

Mate John S. O'Brien, from the *Marblehead*, and placed on leave for discharge.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer F. H. Norton, from the *Colorado*, and placed on waiting orders.

#### PLACED ON LEAVE FOR DISCHARGE.

AUGUST 27.—Acting Third Assistant Engineers R. B. Dick and James McNabb.

AUGUST 28.—Acting Chief Engineers W. A. K. Latimer and James M. Adams.

#### PLACED ON WAITING ORDERS.

AUGUST 30.—Acting Master James Birtwistle and Acting Assistant Surgeon W. H. Faxon.

#### RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

AUGUST 26.—The resignation of Acting Master John Ross, of the *Melissa*.

The resignation of Acting Ensign John Walker, of the *Buckthorn*.

The resignation of Acting Ensign S. H. Brooke.

#### DISCHARGED.

AUGUST 27.—Acting First Assistant Engineer George B. Orswell, Acting Second Assistant Engineers H. K. Stever, A. J. Doty, T. W. Hineline and R. D. Gibbons.

#### HONORABLY DISCHARGED.

The following officers have been honorably discharged from the service since last report:

AUGUST 27.—Acting Second Assistant Engineer John E. Hillard, from the 24th inst.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer William Welker, from the 25th inst.

AUGUST 30.—Acting Second Assistant Engineer George C. Castell, from date.

## LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, for the week ending August 31, 1867:

James Taneyton, quarter gunner, May 28th, U. S. steamer *Lackawanna*.  
 Patrick Reynolds, sergeant marines, August 22d, Marine Barracks, Washington City.  
 Paul Nopper, seaman, August 1st, U. S. steamer *Minnesota*.  
 James McCarthy, marine, August 22d, Naval Hospital, Pensacola.  
 James M'Lean, seaman, August 32d, U. S. steamer *Makahia*.  
 Charles Fisher, marine, August 24th, Naval Hospital, Pensacola

## LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the given dates. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead Letter Office, Washington.

AUGUST 31ST.

## ARMY.

|                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bell, M., Captain,                 | Heussein, General,                  |
| Curtis, D. C. F., Lieutenant, late | Hildreth, Paul,                     |
| 173d N. Y. Vols.,                  | King, Rufus, General,               |
| Davis, E. F., General              | Richardson, E., Captain,            |
| Davis, Theo. R., Captain,          | Room, J. L., Lieutenant, late       |
| De Trobriand, Phil. R. Brig.-Gen., | 11th N. Y. Cavalry,                 |
| Evans, Joseph, Captain,            | Rose, S. D., Lieutenant, 103d regi- |
| Griffis, S. F., Captain,           | ment Colored Infantry.              |
| Gilmer, J. F., General,            | Ward, Henry A., Lieutenant, late    |
| Hambright, Sterling, Major,        | 90th N. Y. Vols.                    |

SEPTEMBER 4TH.

## ARMY.

|                                       |                                   |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Caperton, John, Major,                | Ochiltree, Thos., General,        |
| Cluseret, General,                    | Potter, O. O., Captain,           |
| Grant, Robt. E., Lieutenant,          | Quirk, Paul, Brevet Major,        |
| Hersberg, Fred'k, late 1st Lieut.     | Spies, Ferdinand, late Lieutenant |
| 66th N. Y. Vols.                      | 29th N. Y. Vols.                  |
| Hewitt, T. W.,                        | Walker, Joseph, Major, late 1st   |
| Liscum, E. H., Capt., 25th U. S. inf. | N. Y. Eng.                        |

## NAVY.

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Augusta, U. S. steamer—       | Moncelly, Isidor,          |
| Walters, Thos.,               | McCabe, James,             |
| Cowie, Geo., Jr., U. S. N.,   | Peckworth, Joseph,         |
| Colorado, U. S. steamer—      | Pont, Peter,               |
| Albert, Nicholas,             | Roberson, Henry F.,        |
| Andrea, Anthony,              | Stedman, Cha., Commodore,  |
| Arribito, Francesco,          | Santi, Andres—4            |
| Arthur, Michael,              | Sphar, Levi,               |
| Brown, John—2                 | Tack, Henry,               |
| Craken, Chas. H., Lieutenant, | Vingiprova, Ferdinand,     |
| Cottoni, Giovanni,            | Conemaugh, U. S. steamer—  |
| Cushing, Jas. P.,             | Mahony, Michael—2          |
| Dalherty, Owen,               | Dav's, Jas., U. S. N.      |
| Flaherty, John,               | Kearsegar, screw steamer—  |
| Faggean, Salvatore, &         | Robertson, Wm.             |
| Pertoret, Benedict            | Ridgely, Danl., Commodore, |
| Guirlo, Leopold,              | Nyack, steamer—            |
| Griswold, John,               | Batt, Jas. F.,             |
| Jurich, Giovachino,           | Vermont, U. S. steamer—    |
| Kennedy, Faik,                | Penward, Chas.,            |

Letters have been received at this office addressed to Commander Samuel Magaw, U. S. steamer *Anchor*; Capt. M. J. O'Rourke.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**MILITIA IN THE CONVENTION.**—The report of the committee of the Constitutional Convention on Militia which we have already published does not suggest any material change in the present National Guard system. The sixth section of the bill provides for including in the organization of the National Guard a list of reserved officers, which is to include ex-officers of the National Guard and U. S. Volunteers. We think this provision is entirely unnecessary, as it will only put the State to the expense of commissioning as officers of the National Guard Reserve a very large number of persons who would be equally available in an emergency without the commissions which it is proposed to give them. It must be remembered also that while officers and men who entered the United States service during the war deserve much credit for their patriotism, it does not necessarily follow that they became well instructed in the duties of the positions they filled. In case of another war, volunteers will come forward as they did in 1861, but they will hardly care to have officers assigned to them. It is well known that brevets have been given with a most lavish hand, and if Sec. 6 of the report is embodied in the State Constitution the Governor will be compelled to issue general commissions to many officers of volunteers who should never have been placed in command of a company. This giving of State commissions without command is at best an empty honor, for it can add nothing to the reputation of those officers who distinguished themselves in the Volunteer service, or render them more ready to serve their country in time of need. There may have been among those officers of the National Guard who have been retired after ten years' service in the same grade many able men, but, as far as they have come under our observation, they were officers who were looked upon as encumbrances whom it was desirable to remove in a polite way. It might be of advantage to the State to be able to keep up a well-organized and officered Reserve force, but we have no confidence in the advantage which it is supposed the State will gain from having a large number of officers at its command, none of whom have any troops under them. Although it is desirable to infuse into the National Guard as much of the veteran element as possible, we cannot see any advantage to be gained from the proposed plan of adding to the State forces a brigade composed entirely of officers. This smacks too much of the Militia system of sixty years ago to entitle it to the approval of those who have "followed the drum" up to and into the enemy's works. No true soldier cares for an empty title without command.

**EXPENDITURES FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD.**—We have on several occasions called the attention of our readers to the amounts of money appropriated and expended in behalf of the National Guard of New York City. It appears that this matter has at last attracted the attention of the Citizens' Association, the President of which has addressed a letter to the supervisors, calling their attention to what he conceives to be "extravagant expenditures upon the county armories," instancing the amounts recently paid or to be paid for the fitting up of the armories of the Fifth, Ninth, Fifty-fifth, Seventy-first, and other regiments.

Although the regiments alluded to have for some time been sadly in need of better armories, the letter of Mr. Peter Cooper is well worthy of the mature consideration of the well-wishers of the National Guard. It is well-known that even now several of the better regiments of the First division are compelled to occupy quarters not suitable for their accommodation either in size or location, and yet the appropriations made by the Board of Supervisors is liberal enough, if properly expended, to answer all useful purposes. There can be no question but that regiments like the Fifth, Ninth, Seventy-first, and others that could be named, have a just claim upon the

city for well and even handsomely-fitted armories. In the time of our country's need, these regiments and other organizations of the First division went to the front in her defense, while the members of the Seventy-first regiment, in actual battle, interposed themselves between the National Capital and its invaders. It is, therefore, no more than right that New York City should give these regiments armories that are so fitted up as to be worthy of the name, and not the hen-roosts which some of them have been compelled to put up with.

It is not to urge these points that we first took up our pen, but to call the attention of the more thoughtful among the officers and members of the National Guard to the obvious necessity of reducing the number of military organizations in the City of New York. The First Division is now composed of five brigades, and say twenty-three regiments; and yet how very few of these could be relied upon in case of any disturbance of the peace. We do not now propose to go into an extended discussion of the subject, as we consider it must be evident to every unprejudiced man who gives this matter his attention, that, since the fitting up of armories costs so much, it is advisable that the city should have to pay for no more of them than is absolutely necessary. It was a great mistake to place the minimum regimental organizations so low as three hundred and sixty non-commissioned officers and privates. We want fewer and more healthy organizations. We were informed that the Militia Committee, in the State Constitutional Convention, intended to summon before them some of the more prominent military gentlemen of this city, but we believe this was not done. And yet we know that several of the gentlemen who were to have been summoned would have recommended a reduction of the number of regiments. It would be well if as much interest was taken in this matter as seems to have been felt in arranging the method of selecting brigade commanders.

**COMPANY H, FOURTH REGIMENT.**—The regular weekly drills of this company, Captain George H. Mott commanding, will commence on Monday, September 16, 1867, at 8 P. M., and will continue on every Monday evening thereafter unless otherwise ordered. The monthly meeting of the company was held on Thursday, September 5, at 8 P. M.

**FOURTH BRIGADE.**—Brigadier-General Aspinwall issued the following order on the 29th ult.: Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General Addison Farnsworth, Seventy-ninth Infantry, N. G., and Lieutenant-Colonel W. W. Remmy, Twenty-second Infantry, N. G., are hereby released from arrest—the charges against them having been withdrawn—and they will resume the duties of their respective ranks. The Commanding General believes that Colonel Farnsworth was not responsible for the causes which led to his arrest; but, being unable to determine where the delinquency and neglect occurred, a Court of Inquiry, to consist of Colonel George B. Post, Twenty-second Infantry, is hereby ordered to convene at the armory of the Twenty-second Infantry, at 8 o'clock P. M., September 18, 1867, to examine into and report upon the causes which led to the delay in the receipt of the returns of the parade of the Fourth of July last, from the Seventy-ninth Infantry, N. G. The Commanding General is satisfied that no neglect of duty is attached to Lieutenant-Colonel Remmy; and he is also aware who are responsible for the delay in the returns from the Twenty-second Infantry, N. G., against whom proceedings have been instituted by the colonel commanding that regiment.

**TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.**—Brigadier-General Aspinwall, commanding the Fourth brigade, has ordered a General Court-martial to assemble at the armory of the Twenty-second regiment infantry, N. G. S. N. Y., Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue, New York City, on Thursday, September 12, 1867, at 8 o'clock P. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Captains David E. Brown and George J. ClanRandall, Twenty-second Infantry, N. G. S. N. Y. Detail for the court: Major Robert W. Leonard, Fourth Infantry; Captain George Nehrbass, Eleventh Infantry; Captain John Brower, Twenty-second Infantry. Major Henry R. Cummings, Brigade Judge Advocate, will attend the court in his official capacity.

**TWELFTH REGIMENT.**—Colonel John Ward has issued the following order: The officers and non-commissioned officers of this command will assemble at the State Arsenal in fatigue uniform (*with leggings*), on Wednesday evening, September 4, 1867, at 7 1/2 o'clock P. M., for instruction and drill. As no change will be made in the system of tactics until after the Fall inspection, the instructions will be confined to Casey's School of the Battalion. This command will assemble, fully uniformed and equipped, for instruction and drill on Thursday, September 5th; line will be formed in Washington Square, north side, right on Fifth avenue, at 1 1/2 o'clock P. M., precisely. First sergeant's call at 1 P. M. in regimental armory. Field and staff will report to the Colonel (mounted) fifteen minutes before the time of formation. Non-commissioned staff, band and field music, to the adjutant at first sergeant's call. Commandants of companies will be held responsible for any derangement of the equalization as completed by the adjutant. Any non-commissioned officer or private arriving late will report to the adjutant through the sergeant-major. The annual Fall inspection will take place toward the end of September. Commandants will use the utmost care in preparing their men.

**Elections and Promotions.**—Second Lieutenant John E. Dowley to be first lieutenant, Company I, vice Kirk, resigned; rank from July 1, 1867. Third Sergeant John H. French to be second lieutenant, Company I, vice Dowley, promoted; rank from July 1, 1867. John Fahnestock to be captain, Company K, vice Copcutt, resigned; rank from August 2, 1867.

**Appointments on Non-Commissioned Staff.**—Second Sergeant Henry B. Wilson, Company I, to be sergeant-major, vice Murphy, promoted adjutant; to date from July 20, 1867.

**COMPANY D, SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.**—The officers and members of this company are ordered to assemble at the regimental armory, on Tuesday morning, September 10th, at 8 o'clock A. M., sharp, in fatigue uniform, with white gloves and knapsacks overcoats rolled, to proceed to New Dorp, Staten Island, for company inspection and target practice. Band and drum corps will report to the Commandant at 8 o'clock precisely. Members of the Regiment wishing to join us in this excursion will meet the committee of arrangements, consisting of Lieut. Wm. H. Benjamin, Ex-Sergeant I. N. Rice, and Private Wm. R. Fortier, on Thursday evening, September 5th, and Monday evening, September 9th, at the Armory, at 8 o'clock P. M.

**THE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION ON ARMORIES.**—Mr. Peter Cooper, Chairman of the Citizens' Association's Committee, has addressed a letter to Henry Smith, Esq., President of the Board of Supervisors, inviting attention to a compilation exhibiting the details of certain of the Board's extravagant expenditures upon the county armories in all amounting to \$108,209 32, in items, the most conspicuous of which are as follows:

Messrs. Ingersoll, Watson & Company's bill for furnishing the Fifth regiment armory with two hundred and twenty oak cane-seat

chairs, \$1,540; for seats and settees on three sides of Board of Officers' room, \$1,329; one black walnut lounge book-case, with double glass doors, \$310; one black walnut secretary desk, \$177; one large fine table, with drawers and finished all round for Board of Officers' room, \$162; forty-eight black walnut large chairs, upholstered in green rep and brass nails, Fifth regiment carved on back and gilt; for Board of Officers, at \$46 each, \$2,208; thirty-six cane-seat chairs for rooms at \$6 each, \$228; ten cases for muskets at \$677 each, \$5,770; black walnut lockers for ten companies, \$3,082; thirty-six cane-seat chairs at \$50 each, \$205; and other articles of magnificent furniture in like proportion, amounting to about \$20,000 for this one armory for the Fifth regiment. The same firm of Ingersoll, Watson & Company supplied furniture for the other city armories, and their bills therefor, from March to June inclusive, were: For the Ninth regiment, \$16,804 62; for the Seventy-ninth regiment, \$19,000 08; for Seventy-first regiment, \$16,639 32; for ninety-ninth regiment, \$5,087; for Fifty-fifth regiment, \$2,611 50; for Third Cavalry regiment, \$3,768 90; for armory at Nos. 37 and 39 Bowery, \$4,430; for armory at Elm and White streets, \$4,925; for armory at No. 616 Sixth avenue, \$6,463, and for armory in Duane street, \$4,791. The bills for carpenter work on these armories during the last four months amounted to \$99,132 53.

Having noted many items of wasteful extravagance beyond those which are mentioned above, Mr. Cooper remarks that cheaper furniture might have been bought for the armories, and he adds that the waste becomes doubly noticeable when it is observed that the city and county are heavily in debt.

**GOVERNOR FENTON AT WEST POINT.**—His Excellency Governor Fenton, of New York, last Monday, upon the invitation of Brigadier-General Pitcher, the Superintendent of the United States Military Academy, reviewed the Corps of Cadets. The Governor was accompanied by Adjutant-General Marvin, and Colonel Martin, his Aide-de-camp. The Corps made a very handsome appearance, and were highly complimented by the Governor.

**FARRAR COURT-MARTIAL.**—The Court-martial for the trial of the charges preferred against Colonel Wm. H. Farrar, met at the armory of the Twelfth regiment, on the 3d inst., pursuant to adjournment. Owing to the sickness of the accused the Court adjourned until Thursday, the 5th inst., to meet at the same time (8:30 A. M.) and place.

**THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.**—Brevet Major-General Jourdan, Colonel of this regiment, has issued the following circular order:

**CIRCULAR.**—In order that all members of this command may receive the benefit of the law exempting them from jury duty, it is necessary that a complete roster of the regiment should be filed in the office of the Commissioner of Jurors. To that end, company commanders have been furnished with five copies of muster and inspection returns, four of which will be disposed of in compliance with circular orders from the Adjutant-General's office, and the fifth copy will be forwarded by company commanders to regimental headquarters on or before 9 o'clock, P. M., on the 10th inst. Said copies, together with the roster of the field and staff, will be attested and filed by the Adjutant without delay in the office of the Commissioner of Jurors.

Inasmuch as the law provides that delinquent members of the National Guard are not entitled to said exemption, company commanders are hereby directed to forward a monthly return to regimental headquarters, on or before 9 o'clock, P. M., on the last day of each month, excepting the months of June, July and August, returns for which will be embraced in the following September return, of 1 members of their respective commands who were delinquents or expelled during the month, in order that they may be returned for duty as Jurors to the Commissioner thereof.

Returned delinquent members of this command will remain upon the roster of jurors until they prove, by their conduct as soldiers, that they are worthy of the full privileges of National Guardsmen.

**SECOND REGIMENT.**—The drum corps of this regiment held their first annual moonlight picnic at the Cremorne Garden, 72d street and Third avenue, on Tuesday evening, the 3d inst. Dancing commenced at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and lasted until a late hour in the evening. Drum Major Cregan exerted himself to make everything pass off pleasantly, and, as a consequence, those who attended the picnic had a fine time. This is the first occasion on which any members of the Second regiment have appeared in their new gray uniform, which very closely resembles that worn by the Eighth regiment, except that the belts of the Second are black instead of white. During the evening, F. J. Starr, of the drum corps, was presented with a very handsome pair of drumsticks by the drum major, as a prize for having sold the greatest number of tickets for the picnic. The drumsticks were made of snake-wood, very beautifully turned and finished, and were tipped with silver. Among the guests present were Colonel Reid, Major Robert W. Leonard, Fourth Infantry; Captain George Nehrbass, Eleventh Infantry; Captain John Brower, Twenty-second Infantry. Major Henry R. Cummings, Brigade Judge Advocate, will attend the court in his official capacity.

**EXCURSION OF THE EIGHTH REGIMENT.**—Companies C, G and F, of this regiment, left New York on the 2d inst. on their excursion to Stamford, Norwalk and New Haven. As the companies did not return to New York until Thursday, we are compelled to defer our account of the excursion until next week.

**FIFTH REGIMENT.**—The annual target and moonlight festival of the Fifth regiment drum corps will be held at Paul Falk's Lion Park on next Tuesday, the 10th inst. Drum-Major Berchart is making great preparations, and we can safely predict a good time to all who attend.

**SECOND COMPANY, SEVENTH REGIMENT.**—We understand that an effort has been made by the members of the second company of the Seventh regiment to induce Captain George Moore Smith, of Company G, to return to the company as its Captain. Captain Smith was formerly First Lieutenant in the second company, but prefers to remain with his present company, which, owing to his efforts, is now in excellent condition.

## ENCAMPMENT FIRST BRIGADE M. V. M.

On Tuesday morning, August 20th, the various infantry battalions composing the First brigade assembled at Rowes' Wharf, Boston, for transportation to be furnished them to the camp ground at Hull. Captain M. E. Bigelow, aide-de-camp on the staff of General Burrell, was present, and superintended the same. It was well managed. Had the same officer been on duty the day previous (Monday), much of the confusion then existing would have been prevented, and the camp equipage, caterer's stores, and baggage have been forwarded promptly and in shape. The steamers *Emeline*, *William Harrison*, *Starlight*, and one other, provided the means of reaching the camp for soldiers and citizens. The artillery batteries and most of the cavalry went overland, making a detour of some 22 miles. The ground selected was admirably adapted for the purpose, and its surrounding scenery was grand. In the rear of the camp was Nantasket Beach, facing toward the ocean. In the front of it was Hull bay, with Fort Warren but a short distance off, and on the right and left were Skull-head and Strawberry hills. The First, Seventh, and Ninth Infantry regiments left Boston about 10 o'clock A. M.; the Third and Tenth regiments, Second battalion, and Eighty-fifth company of infantry about 1 P. M. Upon their arrival on the ground the corps immediately took possession of their quarters, the tents having been

pitched on Monday by camping parties. But few of the organizations reported to the Assistant Adjutant-General as required in General Orders No. 4. The tents were pitched with regularity, and the entire camp presented a very picturesque scene, for which Captain J. Q. Adams, Brigade Engineer, is entitled to considerable credit. Any complaints, with regard to want of room, are without justification, as the ground was laid out to the very best advantage possible. As to tents, the fault is with the State authorities, and not the brigade officers. There was not sufficient canvas to properly cover the men, but the best was done with what there was. A force of 20 State constables were on the ground to maintain order without the lines. Adjutant-General Cunningham and Deputy Quartermaster-General Chamberlain camped upon the ground.

Most of Tuesday was occupied in getting settled in quarters. Late in the afternoon the guard was mounted. The various guard mountings were quite well done as far as the officers are concerned, but the men were not attentive.

The brigade officers of the day were—1st day, Lieutenant-Colonel Proctor, First Infantry; 2d day, Lieutenant-Colonel Borden, Third Infantry; 3d day, Colonel Guiney, Ninth Infantry; 4th day, Colonel Burt, Third Infantry; 5th day, Lieutenant-Colonel Ferris, Seventh Infantry. The details were not made as they should have been, i.e., from the roster, as the above list will prove. Every field officer of the infantry corps was present for duty. We presume there may be some satisfactory reason for such details as were made, but the settled course of the service in such matters ought not to be deviated from unless for urgent reasons. Only one officer of the day made a report to headquarters of his tour of duty and the guard under his orders—Colonel Guiney. The camps were generally policed properly, some of them looking quite neat. The medical director issued his orders to the various surgeons regarding the sanitary condition of the camp, and, in company with them, made one or two inspections of the quarters and grounds. There was very little sickness. The excellent water furnished by the wells sunk on the ground, and the fine opportunity afforded the men for sea-bathing on Nantasket beach, had much to do with their good sanitary condition.

On Wednesday the guard was mounted early in the forenoon, and the balance of the day was taken up in drills by battalion. The First and Third Infantry were inspected in the forenoon, and the Seventh Infantry in the afternoon by General Cunningham. The brigade was ordered under arms late in the afternoon, and marched once around the field.

On Thursday morning, immediately after guard mounting, the brigade got under arms, and was reviewed by Major-General Butler and staff. This officer also attempted to inspect the various commands, but was interrupted by a rain storm. The Commander-in-Chief and his staff arrived on the ground in the afternoon, and passed the night in camp.

On Friday the storm continued, and after guard mounting nothing was done until afternoon. The Commander-in-Chief and General Butler, with their respective staffs, left camp in the forenoon. In the afternoon General Cunningham inspected the Ninth and Tenth Infantry. The rain came down in torrents during the inspections.

On Saturday it cleared off, and was a clear, bright day. After guard mounting the First and Second batteries were inspected by General Cunningham. An infantry brigade drill was also a part of the duties of the forenoon, at which the General was also present in his capacity of Inspector-General. The movements at this brigade drill were few in number, and were tolerably well executed. The firings, with the exception of two of the First Infantry, were very poor. We did propose to offer some comments on this drill, but now that "Casey" is done away with, we await another opportunity before criticizing the movements of the brigade. For the same reason we defer any extended remarks on the battalion drills. We carefully noticed all of them, and it is quite apparent, that the majority of the present officers of the Militia understand field movements more thoroughly than Militia officers did before the war. The Eighty-fifth company, Third and Tenth regiments were ordered to break camp at 1 o'clock p.m.; Company E, cavalry, at noon. The batteries and battalion of cavalry were ordered to break camp at any time after 2 p.m. The Ninth regiment broke camp at 3 p.m.; Seventh regiment at 5 p.m.; and First regiment later in the evening. The tents were left standing, and the Second battalion infantry placed in charge. The men of this battalion struck the tents and delivered the camp property over to the proper officers, and arrived in Boston about 6 p.m., Sunday. The camp was thronged with visitors during pleasant weather. Some 300 of them were obliged to remain and accept the hospitalities of the soldiers on Thursday night, being unable to reach Boston in consequence of the steamboat company failing to supply the means.

A word about the inspections by General Cunningham. That officer, accompanied by Major C. A. Davis, brigade inspector, after having made very careful inspections of the men, their arms and equipments and quarters, had each battalion drilled in field movements and in some battalions picked out single companies to drill in company movements. The batteries were drilled together under command of Captain Baxter, who was the senior officer. In all probability the General's next annual report will give his views of the various commands in this brigade.

The sentries were unreliable, but it is almost impossible in large camps like this to properly instruct them. The morning reports were generally sent to headquarters on time, and correct in all but proper additions and summing up of the aggregate. The sports of the camp were many, and would fill a volume to detail, and the splendid bathing facilities afforded by Nantasket beach were improved to the utmost by the troops. A great deal of social feeling prevailed among the officers, many of whom were brought together for the first time. A night passed in this camp during the pleasant weather, with the moon in its full, a cloudless sky, the broad expanse of salt water in front and rear, with the surf continually rolling in on the beach with a roar, is not soon forgotten.

We have the following remarks to make of each corps:

*First Regiment Infantry.*—Colonel George H. Johnston was in command. The Metropolitan Brass Band furnished the music. We do not like the manner in which each company is allowed to mark up their knapsacks. There is no uniformity. Overcoats in most companies were badly rolled. Adjutant Wilson was the only Adjutant whose morning reports were sent in promptly and correctly. We were particularly pleased with some of the battalion drills of this regiment. The marching in review was good. A good drum corps was on duty with the command. The firings, as executed by the First on the brigade drill, were the best made by any corps of the brigade.

*Third Regiment Infantry.*—Colonel M. W. Burt was in command. The National Military Band, of Taunton, furnished the music. The fine physique of the rank and file of the regiment attracted much attention. We were greatly surprised at the efficiency displayed in

battalion movements. The Third has had but one battalion drill since September of last year, and then with only six companies. The marching in review was very good. Company E, of New Bedford, Captain D. A. Butler, was decidedly the best infantry company in the brigade.

*Seventh Regiment Infantry.*—Colonel D. G. Handy was in command. The drum corps and regimental band (Brown's, of Boston) attracted much attention. We do not think that military men knew what a fine military band this was, until this encampment. There are two bands in Boston (the Germania and Brown's) that approach nearer our idea of what military bands should be than any other in the city, not excepting Gilmore's. Why it is that they have not been secured by any of the Boston regiments as regimental bands, in preference to second rate musicians, we cannot understand. The men all mess together in one large marquee. The drill of the regiment was not what we expected to see. Lieutenant-Colonel Ferris was very efficient in his position. Upon the arrival of the regiment in Boston Saturday evening the files were made equal before the march commenced to the armory, and the command attracted much attention. The officers wore white pants, and had overcoats slung. The knapsacks of the men were generally well packed and overcoats properly rolled. The marching music by the band was superb. The new Adjutant of the Seventh is J. E. Dodd, who held the same position in the Fifth Infantry New Hampshire Volunteers. We are sorry to record, that on Wednesday evening Adjutant Dodd, in attempting to quell a disturbance created by some drunken members of the Ninth Infantry, was roughly handled. We should have been much pleased to have said that the Adjutant came out of the brawl first best, and succeeded in inflicting some broken heads among his assailants. In many instances officers do not correctly estimate their authority, and allow drunken brawls to go to such lengths as to encourage the offenders. In some dozen cases that came under our personal observation, if the culprit had been tried by a court-martial and condemned to be confined, under close guard, upon a bread and water diet until the last day of camp, and then, in the presence of the entire brigade, to have had their uniforms stripped from them and drummed out of camp and the service, and this sentence had been executed and their names published to the public, some good would have resulted from it. A certain amount of intemperance is to be expected at encampments; but men who habitually get fighting drunk and keep so for days at a time are not the men that are wanted on the rolls of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia. Neither are officers who will allow such men to remain members of their companies the kind of officers who should be placed in command.

*Ninth Regiment Infantry.*—Colonel S. E. Guiney was in command. We are disappointed in the record made by the regiment at this camp. With few exceptions we believe the officers did their best to preserve order and maintain discipline, but the fact remains on record that over one half of the disturbances created in and out of the camp lines were traced directly to the men of this regiment. The men detailed for guard duty were very unreliable. Members from other regiments were as unreliable, but not to such an extent as the men of the Ninth.

We will not say that the entire regiment is composed of poor material, but it is self evident to any observer that there are many members who are not of the right stamp. Its reputation suffers from the acts of such members. In this command, also in other commands, there are many who enlist only a few weeks previous to an encampment for the sole purpose of going to camp, and, as they express themselves, have a good time and raise the devil, and as soon as camp duty is done are no longer to be counted upon as working members, and eventually have to be dropped from the rolls for non attention to duty. These men have no interest in the corps to which they belong, and care nothing for its good name. They generally are the persons who are responsible for the rows. When officers will learn to exercise discretion in enlisting men, and prefer to go into camp with forty good and true men to a company, instead of sixty, with twenty of them indifferent members, then we may expect to elevate the standard of the force to its proper place. Much complaint is made by the working officers and members of the various corps about the apathy prevailing among the merchants and solid citizens in regard to the Militia, and the disinclination of many to allow their employees to join the same. With the record that some corps make upon parades and camp duty, and the indifferent drill they display, can any common-sense man wonder at it? The remedy for such a state of things is with the troops themselves. Should they wish to awake public sentiment to the proper pitch on the Militia question they must prove themselves worthy of such attention. Indiscriminate newspaper puffing has done much harm to the service. There is no reason why a poor command should receive the same amount of praise as a good command. O'Connor's Band was with the regiment. Captain Timothy Teafe, of Company A, and Lieutenant Matthew Welsh, of Company G, were placed under arrest by the Brigadier-General, during the encampment, for unofficer-like conduct. Captain Teafe was acting as officer of the day for his regiment at the time. We believe his Colonel speaks well of him, and it is very unfortunate that he should have been found in the condition he was in. Both officers were released from arrest upon the arrival of the regiment in Boston. The Colonel still has the First Sergeant of the right flank company, acting as right general guide, and the Second Sergeant of the left flank company, acting as left general guide—both Sergeants also attending to their company duties when on battalion drill.

*Tenth Regiment Infantry.*—Colonel Robert H. Chamberlain in command. This regiment is from the western part of the State, and is composed of hardy, fine-looking young men. The Third and Tenth regiments are many steps ahead of the Boston regiments in the material of their rank and file. The Westboro Brass Band was the regimental band. There has been but one battalion drill since September last. Bearing this in mind, the battalion drills were quite a feature. There was much attention to the details of the drills on the part of the officers. The marching in review was very good. Discipline of the men exceedingly good. Quartermaster Chapin acted like a veteran in the discharge of his duties.

*Second Battalion Infantry (Colored).*—Major Lewis Gaul was in command. Edward's (colored) Brass Band was with them. This battalion furnished the sentinels for the headquarters guard. We were more favorably impressed with the company drills than with the battalion drills. The command fully maintained the excellent reputation it has gained.

*The Eighty-fifth Unattached Company* was temporarily attached to the Third regiment.

*First Battalion Cavalry.*—Major Lucius Slade was in command. The Chelsea Brass Band, mounted, was the battalion band. Com-

pany E, of New Bedford, was temporarily attached. The company and battalion drills were very interesting. Major Slade had the following inscription over his headquarters:

"Never forget who saved the day.  
By carrying Sheridan into the fight.  
From Winchester, twenty miles away."

The cavalry performed the most arduous duty of any corps in the camp. Heavy details were made for orderlies and the various guards. Discipline was excellent. One evening word was sent to brigade headquarters that from 75 to 100 soldiers were having things pretty much their own way in the town of Hull. Major Slade was ordered to take all the volunteers he could procure, and proceed to the scene of the disturbance. In less than ten minutes from the time of his arrival in his camp with his orders, the entire battalion not on other duty, was saddled, mounted, and on the road. A company of the Ninth infantry was posted across a narrow causeway, the only outlet from camp to Hull, and arrested such soldiers as were driven in by the cavalry. Only some dozen men were arrested, and they escaped from the guard-house next morning—an example of how loose the guard duty was done. The orders of Major Slade were discretionary, but those who know him best understand full well that if occasion required it, some of the night prowlers would have had need of the surgeon's services.

On Friday night, some members of the Third and Ninth regiments created a disturbance at the sutler's tents. Companies C and D, of the First Infantry, under command of Major McDonough, were ordered to protect the peace, and did so. The Major is the right man for such work. He entertains no sympathy for those men whose actions throw ignominy upon the service.

#### CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD, S. N. Y.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, |  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, September 3, 1867. |  
The following-named officers have been Commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the National Guard, State of New York, during the week ending August 31st:

##### SIXTH DIVISION.

Original Staff Appointments, with rank from May 25th.  
Stephen A. Estes, Assistant Adjutant-General.  
Andrew J. Smith, Inspector.  
Edward B. Lansing, Judge-Advocate.  
Moses Summer, Quartermaster.  
James H. Hinman, Aide-de-camp.

##### EIGHTH DIVISION.

Theodore D. Barnum, Aide-de-camp, with rank from August 29th, original.

##### EIGHTH BRIGADE.

E. R. Mackey, Surgeon, with rank from August 10th, original.  
SEVENTEENTH BRIGADE.

James E. Curtiss, Assistant Adjutant-General, with rank from August 17th, original.  
Albert Story, Engineer, with rank from August 17th, vice J. E. Curtiss, appointed Assistant Adjutant-General.

James Smith, Commissary of Subsistence, with rank from August 17th, original appointment.

William H. Lintner, Aide-de-camp, with rank of captain from August 17th, vice Albert Story, promoted.

Chester Palmer, Aide-de-camp, with rank of first lieutenant, from August 17th, original.

George Thomas, Ordnance officer, with rank from August 28th, original appointment.

##### FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Adam Keim, Captain, with rank from August 8th, vice G. Messer-schmidt, resigned.

##### TWELFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John Fahnestock, Captain, with rank from August 2d, vice H. W. Copcutt, resigned.

##### TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Edward Bussell, First Lieutenant, with rank from June 25th, vice C. A. Walker, promoted Ordnance Officer Fourth brigade.

##### TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

William Irvin, chaplain, with rank from August 20th, vice H. C. Potter, removed from district.

##### THIRTY-FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Original appointments with rank from August 21st.

Augustus J. Phillips, Captain.  
Ebenezer L. Wait, First Lieutenant.

Frederick W. Simpson, First Lieutenant.

Samuel B. Kellogg, Second Lieutenant.

Frank Winch, Second Lieutenant.

##### FIFTY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

George W. Van Mater, First Lieutenant, with rank from August 20th, vice E. B. Smith, resigned.

Amos Allen, Jr., Second Lieutenant, with rank from August 20th, vice James Packer, promoted.

##### EIGHTY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Stephen T. Hopkins, Adjutant, with rank from August 26th, original vacancy.

Jonas Person, Quartermaster, with rank from August 24th, original vacancy.

Charles A. Vedder, Captain, with rank from August 24th, vice John W. Dewey, removed from district.

Ogden H. Plank, First Lieutenant, with rank from August 24th, vice Charles A. Vedder, promoted.

John Stead, First Lieutenant, with rank from October 6, 1866, vice Miles E. Derby, removed from district.

##### NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Albert Steinway, Lieutenant-Colonel, with rank from August 9th, vice Ernest O. Bernet, resigned.

Edmund E. Urank, Major, with rank from August 9th, vice Albert Steinway, promoted.

##### ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Jerome F. Wheeler, First Lieutenant, with rank from June 24th, vice C. H. Babcock, appointed Adjutant.

Elbert Widger, Captain, with rank from July 6th, vice E. H. Rose, removed from district.

Charles H. Beasley, Second Lieutenant, with rank from July 6th, vice E. J. Woodley, removed from district.

##### ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Hiram L. Scofield, Second Lieutenant, with rank from June 1st, vice W. L. Clark, resigned.

##### ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

James McPherson, Second Lieutenant, with rank from August 3d, vice J. H. Johnson, resigned.

##### ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Frank M. Blossom, Commissary of Subsistence, with rank from August 23d, original appointment.

The following resignations of officers in the National Guard, S. N. Y., have been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief during the week ending August 31st:

August 27th, Sixty-ninth regiment, Surgeon, Patrick J. Clarke.  
August 27th, Third regiment, Second Lieutenant, Charles R. Truex.

August 27th, Third regiment, First Lieutenant, Daniel M. Fisher.

August 27th, Seventh regiment, Captain, George W. Ford.

August 27th, Seventh regiment, Second Lieutenant, David M. Holdridge.

August 27th, Fourth regiment, Quartermaster, William H. Tigray.

August 28th, One Hundredth regiment, First Lieutenant, Moses S. Wilcox.

August 28th, Fifty-second regiment, First Lieutenant, John H. Adams.

August 29th, Sixty-ninth regiment, Major, Thomas Clarke.

## AN EMPTY SLEEVE.

By the moon's pale light to the gazing throng,  
Let me tell one tale, let me sing one song,  
'Tis a tale devoid of an aim or plan—  
'Tis a simple song of a one-armed man.  
Till this very hour I could not believe  
What a tell-tale thing is an empty sleeve!  
What a weird, queer thing is an empty sleeve!

It tells in a silent tone to all,  
Of a country's need to a country's call,  
Of a sweet kiss for child and wife,  
And a hurried march for a country's life.  
Till this very hour who could ever believe  
What a tell-tale thing is an empty sleeve!  
What a weird, queer thing is an empty sleeve!

It tells of a battle and fields of gore,  
Of the sabre's clash, of the cannon's roar,  
Of the deadly charge, of the bugle's note,  
Of a gurgling sound in foeman's throat;  
Of the whizzing grape of the fiery shell,  
Of a scene which mimics the scenes of hell.  
Till this very hour who could ever believe  
What a tell-tale thing is an empty sleeve!  
What a weird, queer thing is an empty sleeve!

Though it points to a myriad of wounds and scars,  
Yet it tells of a flag of stripes and stars,  
In God's own chosen time will take  
Each place of the "rag" with the rattlesnake.  
And it points to a time when the flag shall wave,  
O'er a land where breathes no cowering slave.  
To the top of the skies, then, let us all have  
One proud husk for the empty sleeve—  
For the one-armed man and the empty sleeve!

## MAJOR-GENERAL HANCOCK.

MAJOR-GENERAL Winfield Scott Hancock is about forty-five years of age, commanding presence, being upward of six feet in height, with a figure proportionately developed, and of most courteous and affable address. He has been called the handsomest soldier in the Army, and in every respect a genial and whole-souled gentleman. This is the man whom the will of Providence, his Excellency Andrew Johnson, and indisposition on the part of General Thomas, have caused to be assigned to the command of the Fifth Military District.

Not having at hand a biography, or even a sketch of the life and services of this distinguished officer, we cannot give our readers so intimate an introduction to their new ruler as would be desirable, but doubtless such few facts as we can furnish regarding him will prove acceptable. General Hancock is a native of—and went to West Point from—the State of Pennsylvania. He graduated with honor from the National Military Academy in 1844, and was at once made Brevet Second Lieutenant in the Sixth Infantry. Subsequently he was, like Sheridan, transferred to the Quartermaster's Department, but succeeding better than the latter name in that line of duty, was promoted to Captain and Assistant Quartermaster, which rank he held at the breaking out of the late Rebellion. In fact, so late as 1864, after winning distinction in the field, he nominally held the rank of Major in that much abused but highly important branch of the service.

At the commencement of hostilities Captain Hancock was commissioned a Brigadier-General of Volunteers, and the 29th of November, 1862, another star was added to his insignia of rank. His services were rendered in the Army of the Potomac, and his fame principally won as the ever-ready, hard-fighting, and uniformly-successful commander of the famous Second Corps. It is impossible to tell how far the sanguine judgment of his admirers, that he is a remarkable military genius, might have been confirmed had he been given a separate command, but certain it is that no one could have better carried out whatever duty was assigned him to perform. While invariably sent with his corps to important points, when there was hard fighting on hand, we believe he was never detached from the main body on independent expeditions. In fact, the Second Corps was regarded as the nucleus of the Potomac Army—its station the grand rallying point, from which "headquarters" were seldom far removed. It was in the terrible battles of the Wilderness that Hancock performed such "meritorious service," as it is put in General Orders that he was promoted to a Brigadier-Generalship in the regular army, and greatly to the admiration of General Grant, who fully recognized and appreciated his superior soldierly qualifications, he continued to enact "meritorious" deeds until the surrender of the Confederate chieftain and his ragged host closed the conflict of arms. For this he was made a Major-General in the United States Regular Army—his present rank. Well-earned were his laurels.

By those who met him in the front and shock of battle, General Hancock was regarded as one of the "bravest of the brave"—a Ney in courage and determination—and, he was invariably spoken of in terms of highest respect by the Confederates. Such was the reputation which the cessation of hostilities left him, and which he shortly afterward carried to new fields of duty on the Western frontier, where he has ever since been engaged in operations against the hostile Indians as Commander of the Department of the Missouri, with headquarters at Leavenworth, Kansas. It is at the latter place that the President directs General Sheridan to immediately proceed and relieve him, which, we suppose, our present commander will do as soon as the order shall have been received officially.

General Hancock, we may here remark incidentally, is married to a highly cultivated and refined lady of the Crescent City, daughter of Mr. Oliver Dubois, a former wealthy and respected citizen, now deceased. It is to be hoped the General will, in due season, bring his family to reside in New Orleans.

The Presidential order relieving General Sheridan directs that he turn over the command of this District to the next officer in rank. As General Griffin is assigned to duty at his brevet rank of Major-General, compliance with this order will necessitate a delay of several days until that officer can arrive from Texas, of which State he is at present the immediate commander. It might have been more convenient for all parties had Brevet Major-General George L. Hartsuff, A. A. G., been assigned to command of the Fifth District during the short space of time which will elapse between the departure of General Sheridan and arrival of General Hancock. General Hartsuff would really outrank General Griffin (by date of commission), if placed on duty in accordance with his brevet rank; and certainly no one is more intimate with affairs relating to this command, not even General Sheridan himself.

In conclusion, we can but simply express the conviction that our people will be fully satisfied with the rule of General Hancock, believing that he will deal out justice impartially, unbiased by prejudice or partisan feeling.—*N. O. Times*, August 29.

## OBITUARY.

DIED.—August 13th, at midnight, at Fort Wallace, Kansas, of cholera, Mrs. Colonel Bankhead, youngest daughter of the late Bishop Wainwright, of New York, aged 29 years.

It seems impossible that an announcement so brief should conclude a life so pure and blessed as hers. Mrs. Bankhead was accompanying her husband from New Mexico to the line of the Smoky Hill, marching with the Fifth Infantry. Upon reaching Fort Wallace, the cholera manifested itself in the command, and raged with pitiless and indiscriminate fury. Through all the panic and terror inspired by its mysterious and terrible devastations, Mrs. Bankhead, up to the hour of her attack, moved, like an angel of mercy, serenely and steadily, cheering the sick, and consoling the dying. Her presence was a blessing; her devoted attention to the suffering alleviated the mortal agony of the victim struck with the fearful pestilence; her benedictions cheered the soul for its passage through the "valley and shadow of death." In the constant and hopeful discharge of these elevated and pious duties, doubly consecrated by her superior religious culture, she attracted the arrow of the destroyer, and, too soon, her weary spirit and over-tasked strength yielded to his invincible power. She died calmly as the Christian dies whose faith is unshaken, and whose hope is strengthened by the assurance of Heaven, surrounded by the devotion of love, and the consideration of profound respect.

In every relation of life Mrs. Bankhead had sustained the purity and excellence of her religious culture; the perfect nobility of her womanhood; the charm of her personal influence; and the rare loveliness and beauty of her character. Society will miss one of its brilliant ornaments, and friendship will mourn, with hallowed tears, the devoted heart and endearing woman now laid to rest in the repose and solitude of that distant grave.

To those who wait in hopeless anxiety for her coming, as well as to him who has been compelled to meet this profound sorrow without the sympathy of kindred, let the poignant grief of this mystery of Providence be turned into lasting blessing.

C. G. C.  
FORT WALLACE, Kansas, August 20, 1867.

THE REYNOLDS MONUMENT.—A meeting of the Committee of the First Corps, Army of the Potomac, having charge of the Reynolds Monument, was held at Philadelphia, August 13, 1867. All the members were present. The treasurer reported \$6,910 57 on hand, nearly all of which bears interest. The committee decided to erect a semi-colossal bronze statue of the General, in military uniform, on a site already selected in the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg. An additional sum of \$2,500 is needed to insure the early completion of the monument. Officers and soldiers of Reynolds' Corps disposed to increase their subscriptions, can do so by addressing General C. S. Wainwright, Treasurer, at Rhinebeck, New York, or any of the other members of the committee, namely: Gen. R. Coulter, Greensburg, Westmoreland County, Pa.; Gen. J. W. Hofmann, No. 9 North Eighth street, Philadelphia; Colonel Chapman Biddle, No. 131 South Fifth street, Philadelphia; or Dr. T. H. Bach, No. 283 South Thirteenth street, Philadelphia.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Philadelphia *Press* says:

It has been discovered that the rebel farmers

in the vicinity of Manassas battle-field, in Virginia, have dug up the bones of Union soldiers buried there and sold them to manufacturers of bone-dust manure. Skulls, hip-bones, parts of the vertebral column, femora and tibia, were taken from a wagon loaded by them at Bull Run, which was en route to Alexandria, and they are now on exhibition in this city.

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NOTICE.—AZTEC CLUB.

There will be a Meeting of the AZTEC CLUB at 12 o'clock M., SEPTEMBER 14th, at the Astor House. All members are requested to attend.

By order of the President,

P. V. HAGNER,

Brevet Brigadier-General, Treasurer.

## GUN-POWDER

## ORANGE RIFLE AND SPORTING.

## THE PRIZE POWDER OF THE WORLD.

The attention of sportsmen and dealers is called to the following facts:

At the trial of arms before the Examining Board in Washington, August, 1866, cartridges made from this powder gave far greater penetration, range, and clearness, and in competition with the principal American can powders, proved in every respect superior to all others.

At the WIMBLEDON RIFLE MEETING IN ENGLAND, July, 1866, competing with the best of foreign powder, the same results were obtained, with the first prize.

The Board convened by order of the COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK for the examination of military small arms, whose sessions were attended by officers specially detached by the RUSSIAN, PRUSSIAN, and DANISH GOVERNMENTS, say, in their printed report of the numerous guns on trial, that after firing 100 rounds all but one became so foul as not to admit the cartridge.

This led to a test of the powder, and they deem the subject of so much importance that they say in their report: "The powder used in these cartridges deserves special mention as being very superior. It is the ORANGE RIFLE POWDER."

Another meeting of the Board, called by Special Order No. 126 of the Adjutant-General, under date of May 18, 1867, is subject, among other conditions, to the following, in article 3d:

"In order to conform to the United States standard charge, as now adopted, the charge of powder will be 70 grains. The powder to be the ORANGE RIFLE POWDER, No. 1, manufactured by SMITH & RAND POWDER CO.

One of the best sportsmen in the State writes: "With the Orange Powder I made the largest score I ever made."

In the shooting matches where this powder has been used it has been universally successful.

Wm. Taylor, Esq., the celebrated pheasant-shooter of Jersey City, says: "It is the best powder I have ever used."

Another celebrated shot from Central New York writes: "Your powder is in high repute here and the country round about, and will supersede all others."

OUR BRANDS ARE:

Orange Lightning, 1-lb. canisters, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 grn.

" Ducking, 3-lb. canisters, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 grn.

" Game, brass-bound kegs, 12½ lbs. and 6½ lbs., Nos. 1, 2, 3 grain.

" Rifle, kegs 25 lbs., 12½ lbs., 6½ lbs., Fg, FFg.

" Rifle, canisters, 1 lb., ½ lb., FFg.

Kentucky Sporting, canisters, 1 lb., ½ lb., FFg.

It may be obtained at wholesale at our office, or at wholesale and retail from the following dealers in arms:

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ERIE RAILWAY.—Trains leave Depot foot of Chambers-st., Pavonia Ferry:

8:00 a. m. Day Express for Rochester, Buffalo, and all points West and South.

8:30 a. m., Way Train, daily for Ossining and intermediate stations.

4:00 a. m., Express Mail, for Buffalo, Salamanca, Dunkirk, and all points West and South.

4:00 p. m., Way Train, for Turner's and intermediate stations.

4:30 p. m., Way Express, stopping at Suffern, Turner's, and all stations west of Turner's to Port Jervis, Newburgh, and Warwick.

5:00 p. m., Way Train, for Suffern and intermediate stations.

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Also, Way Trains for Boiling Spring, Passaic, and Paterson, at 6:45 and 9:15 a. m., 12 m., 1:45, 3:30, 6:30, and 11 p. m. On WEDNESDAY NIGHTS a Theater Train at 12 o'clock for Suffern and intermediate stations.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—8:30 a. m., Way Train for Ossining; 12 m. and 5 p. m., for Paterson; 7 p. m., Night Express for Dunkirk, Buffalo, Rochester, Salamanca, and all points West and South; 11 p. m., for Paterson and Port Jervis.

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THE BOARD FOR THE EXAMINATION OF BREECH-LOADING Small-arms having adjourned to September 17th next, hereby gives notice that the session commencing that day will, as to the public trials of guns, be final and will occupy only five days. Exhibitors must, therefore, be fully prepared on that day at the State Arsenal (7th avenue, corner 35th street), for testing their guns in accordance with the regulations adopted. Two days will be devoted to examination and tests of cartridges for breech-loaders.

By order of S. W. BURR,  
Colonel and Assistant Inspector-General,  
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Le President:

MELINET.

GEORGES KASTNER, AMBROISE THOMAS,  
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